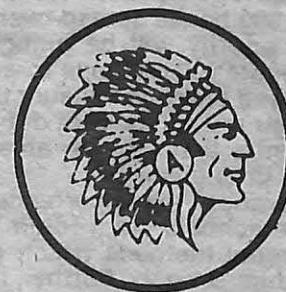


- **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!**
- Our office will be open on Monday, February 15th — Presidents' Day



AGAWAM Advertiser·News

Volume XXII Number 6

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 11, 1999

CAR-RT SORT*** C011
Agawam Public Library
750 Cooper St
Agawam MA 01001-2177

Incident Leads To Frantic 45 Minutes...

Bus Driver Disciplined After Sleeping Child Discovered In Locked Bus

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last Friday afternoon, every mother's worst nightmare came true for an Agawam mother when her special needs child failed to return home on the bus.

After a frantic 45 minutes of telephone calls between the School Department, the Agawam Police Station, and the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative (LPVEC), the child, a special needs student, was discovered asleep in the back of the minibus which was parked and locked at the bus driver's home.

Citing state law that protects the identity of students, LPVEC Executive Director Richard Labrie would not release the student's name, nor would he comment on the age of the child or the school the child attended. However, Labrie did confirm that the child was attending a collaborative classroom in one of the Agawam schools.

The driver of the LPVEC-owned minibus failed to follow the required policy of checking the bus at the end of each run, and the child was not visible from the front of the bus due to the high-backed seats required as a safety feature, Labrie said.

The LPVEC received a call shortly after 3:00 p.m., but the driver had completed his run and had gone home, where he was allowed to park the bus. When the driver could not be reached at home, another driver was dispatched to the scene. The child was discovered still asleep in the back of the bus and taken home, Labrie said.

Labrie declined to give the driver's name or specify the disciplinary action taken against the six-year veteran driver. "This driver has been driving a route in Agawam for the last six or seven years and has never had an incident on his record," Labrie said. "In the interest of protecting his rights, I cannot comment except to say that appropriate disciplinary action has been taken."

Labrie said he has spoken to the child's mother about the incident. "She certainly was not happy about this, but she seemed to understand how it happened," Labrie said.

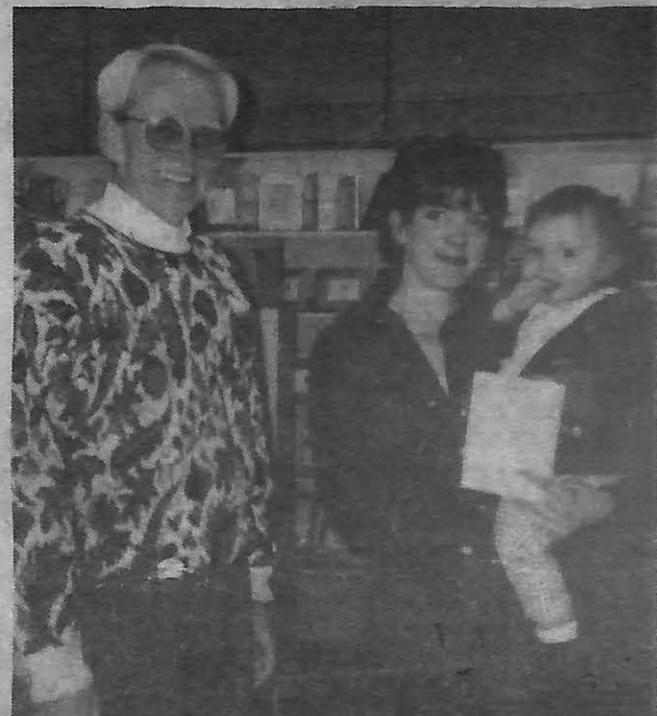
To prevent a similar incident from happening, Labrie said the LPVEC will now require all drivers to place a placard reading "This Bus Is Empty" in the rear window to assure that the drivers will remember to walk the length of the bus at the end of the day.

The "Agawam Room" At Heritage Hall...



AT HERITAGE HALL'S EAST BUILDING, the dining room of A wing was recently dedicated as the "Agawam Room." (See Page 13 for additional photo and related story.)

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



STEPHANIE DOUGLASS (center), composer of a verse accepted by Blue Mountains Art, holds the card and her daughter, Brenna, while Bob McElligott (owner of Surprise! Card & Gift Shop) looks on.

Congratulations, Stephanie Douglass...

Agawam Native's Verses Are Now In Greeting Cards

by Kathy Shepard
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Agawam native Stephanie Douglass has realized a lifelong dream by recently having some of her verses published in greeting cards. The first company, Blue Mountains Art, accepted a verse which Stephanie composed. "This one is the most exciting for me because I actually saw it in Surprise! Card and Gift Shop, the card store in the Southgate Plaza."

The 1987 Agawam High graduate noted, "It's a great feeling, walking into the card section and actually seeing your own poem in a greeting card," Stephanie recalls. "Most of my excitement is for my daughter, who just turned one. When she gets older, I can show her this and it will teach her that effort does result in rewards."

Several card companies have used her compositions. Blue Mountains Art has taken one (look for it at Surprise!) and is considering eight others. Gibson Greetings has accepted four different verses. "Gibson responds within about three months, whereas the process for verse acceptance with Blue Mountains Art takes much longer, about a year-and-a-half," she said.

Blue Mountains does a market review first. "Having a poem accepted by them is very meaningful, because they receive thousands of submissions a year and are very selective."

SEE GREETING CARDS - Page 2...

GREETING CARDS - from Page 1...

The purchase of one of Stephanie's verses for wall-hanging art by Laura Leiden Calligraphy is another recent triumph. Stephanie will continue to submit to this company, as well as lots of others.

Stephanie has resided in Agawam all her life. She started writing in fourth grade. She wrote special poems and verses for her friends and relatives on holidays and special occasions, but she never actually took a course in creative writing. She graduated from AHS third in the high ability class, and she furthered her education at Westfield State College. Plans to continue with schooling have been deferred until her daughter is older.

Stephanie worked at McDonald's in the Southgate Plaza from the age of 16 and through college. She later joined H.P. Hood in customer service until she took a position with Interim Personnel as a placement consultant. She then started working at Traveler's Insurance full-time in human resources. When her daughter, Brenna, was born, Stephanie became a part-time adjustment processor so she could have time for her daughter.

A Chance Happening

Her success with the greeting cards began one day when she happened to look on the back of a Blue Mountains Art card and noticed the words, "Submissions welcome." She submitted about 10 verses, kept in touch with the company, and became acquainted with a woman in the editorial department of the company.

This woman called Stephanie last June 15th to tell her a verse had been accepted. The selected poem had been submitted in January 1997. The Gibson Greetings company mailed her an announcement and a check arrived about a week later. "Each company handles submissions differently, but usually there is an agreement to pay a one-time fee which gives all future rights to the card company," she has learned.

Stephanie's daughter became one year-old on December 30th. Stephanie could not be more proud. "I did this for my daughter, to show her that dreams can really come true if you keep trying.

"Brenna may learn that life can be tough at times, but what has happened for me will show her that if you work hard, actual worthwhile results can follow."

ADVERTISER NEWS

* * *

**EXPERIENCE
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546 SPRINGFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS, MA

Senator Melconian To Speak In Communities Regarding State's Educational System

Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to announce that she will be speaking with educators and parents in each of the communities in her district to share with them one of the Senate's highest priorities for the current legislative session - meeting the continuing challenges to our educational system.

Education reform is expected to top an agenda that will also focus on special education, teacher quality enhancement, bilingual education, charter schools, and school building assistance.

The first of these meetings took place in Chicopee on January 27th as Melconian met with the Chicopee School Committee, parents, and teachers at the invitation of Chicopee Superintendent Barbara A. Cove.

"The Senate has put its money where its mouth is on education reform," said Melconian. "We mandated improvements and then we funded them with \$4.65 billion over the last six years."

One of the Senate's highest educational priorities, after fully funding the last year of education reform, will be the reform of special education. Melconian believes Massachusetts will probably have to join the other 49 states in moving from a special education standard of "maximum feasible development" to the federal standard of a "free and appropriate" education.

She cautions, however, that a final decision must wait until April when an independent study mandated by the Legislature is complete. Massachusetts spends almost twice as much for elementary special education students and 1.6

times as much for high school special education students as it does for regular education students.

The Senate will continue to enhance teacher quality with an \$850,000 program for new teacher bonuses and a program to reward master teachers who pass a rigorous national certification process with a \$50,000 bonus spread over 10 years. Another Senate priority will be bilingual education, where the Senate will continue to work for objective standards and testing to assure that schools do not fail in their most important duty to foreign language students: that they be able to learn and communicate in English.

Melconian also spoke about the importance of charter schools. "These schools are a forum for new ideas and educational methods which can only help traditional public schools. Further, in a country built on the principles of democracy and individualism, how can we deny parents the opportunity to choose how their children are educated?"

Finally, Melconian emphasized the necessity of capital spending in education. "We must increase Chapter 70 funding, especially for building projects. It is impossible for children to receive a good education when they are using obsolete equipment and learning in a dilapidated building.

Senator Melconian urges all her constituents to contact her to share their views on these important issues. The senator's district office phone number is (413) 786-6033.

State Rep. Dan Keenan Schedules Office Hours In Agawam On February 17th and 24th

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan will hold office hours on Wednesday, February 17th and 24th between 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam.

Members of the public are welcome to attend to convey their comments and concerns on issues

facing the district and the state. Representative Keenan welcomes the opportunity to meet and hear from his constituents.

Representative Keenan may also be reached at his district office at 342 Springfield Street in Agawam or at the State House in Boston. His district phone number is 786-4545.

All the hometown news with us — AAN!!!

SCOTT M. HIBBERT
Attorney at Law

Bring Your

Sweetheart

To

Alexander's

Restaurant & Banquet

60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills



Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 14th

Dinner Served 1:00 P.M. To 9:00 P.M.

*On Valentine's Day,
We Will Be Featuring
A "Special" Menu...*

**Plus, Receive A Free
Glass Of Wine With Your Dinner.**

**Valentine's Day Drawing
for a Free
\$25.00 Gift Certificate**





Letters To The Editor

Interact & Zabielski Have Been Given The Run-Around

To The Editor:

The Interact team and Mr. Zabielski have been given the run-around on the bathroom monitor issue. The Interact students and Mr. Zabielski were put off from addressing the School Committee for several meetings before they were allowed to speak.

They may only be students, but their parents are voters and we support our kids in this. We have always told them that if they didn't like something to go through channels and get it changed. That is what these students have attempted to do.

Dr. Ameruoso, it is not "up to them to stop their peers from smoking." That is why they have brought this issue to the School Committee. What a lucky town Agawam is when our students don't have to worry about gangs and weapons and can address an issue that has been ongoing for years.

One of the School Committee members commented that her high school had a matron in the bathrooms who "sat there while smoke swirled around her head." Kids smoked in the bathrooms when I was in high school, okay, 30 years ago. But we did not have the information on just what a health hazard smoking was then. It just made your hair stink, and whoever heard of second-hand smoke?

Now, we cannot ignore this major health risk. We cannot plead ignorant to what this doing to our children's health. This state has laws against the sale of cigarettes to minors, and AHS has rules against smoking.

Interact is asking no more than to uphold the law and enforce the rules already in place. It seems that the monitors are just the answer.

Free up the teachers from this duty, and then the price (how about minimum wage?) of an additional teacher would be moot since the teachers now tied up would be doing their real jobs, not "potty patrol."

Sincerely,
Vicki D. Alfano
Agawam

Ag. Chamber Of Commerce Helps Honor Roll Project

To The Editor:

The Agawam Veterans' Council and all members of the Honor Roll Committee wish to extend their sincere appreciation to the Agawam Chamber of Commerce for their generous donation of \$500 to the Honor Roll Project.

Their donation has helped us reach a milestone and a step closer to building the monument on Veterans' Green. We now have a grand total of \$20,407.53. The total cost of the project will be approximately \$75,000.

We have a couple of other large donations pending, and hope to hear from the many civic organizations and businesses that we had contacted in late 1998.

Included in the above figure is \$4,883 donated by Agawam residents through our water bill project. We appreciate the support and encouragement expressed by so many of our residents for the Honor Roll and feel it will complete our Veterans' Green in honoring all active-duty Agawam war veterans.

Sincerely,
Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 1, 1999 at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of ten registered voters for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, by adding a provision relative to delaying the demolition of historically significant buildings. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Some School Comm. Members Care About Students' Needs

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Teresa Kosloski, Roberta Doering, and Lou Massoia for their support of the resolution to try bathroom monitors on a trial basis at Agawam High School.

You have shown that you are willing to try to overcome the obstacles that stand in the way of clean and healthy environments in the bathrooms for our students. By supporting this proposal, you are showing the students at AHS that you care about their education and their needs.

To Mayor Johnson, Linda Galarneau, and Susan Pettazzoni, I can only say that there will be an awful lot of angry parents and 18 year-old students who will remember that you do not see their rights to healthy and clean bathrooms as a priority.

Mayor Johnson, while I know you have a responsibility to the whole town, you need to start seeing beyond the dollar signs in some aspects of education. Mr. Massoia presented you with a viable solution; why couldn't you even look at it?

Mrs. Galarneau, it was nice to see that you did some research on this subject, but I don't understand why you had to contact schools at the other end of the state. Why didn't you contact Mr. Delisle at Southwick High School as the Interact students suggested?

Mrs. Pettazzoni, while I understand that you had concerns with the job description and the money, I don't understand why you wouldn't even ask to have this issue reconsidered, especially since your daughter is a student at AHS.

To all of you, your words say you do care, but for some unknown reason, when this issue originally came up, you all jumped on your defensive horses and bucked it every step of the way.

To the Interact students, the Peer Leadership group, and the many parents who supported this effort, I say congratulations on raising the consciousness of this issue. You worked hard researching all your options and you didn't give up hope, even to the last vote. You are to be commended for your actions.

I hope this defeat does not discourage you from working just as hard on the next issue. Hopefully, something will eventually be done to improve this situation.

Sincerely,
Kathleen A. Mounemeh
Feeding Hills

Agawam Ski Parents Assoc. Thank Businesses For Support

To The Editor:

The Agawam Ski Parents Association would like to thank the following businesses for their participation in the 1998-1999 Agawam High School Ski Saver Card:

E.B.'s, Malone's, Friendly's, Luigi's, Corner Deli, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Golden Nozzle, Stan's Soft Serve, Skl-In, Partner's, Alvin's, Letalien Jewelers, Fenton's, and Feeding Hills Market & Deli.

Their generous discount offers and willingness to support the students of our community is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to all the citizens who purchased and/or sold cards to help make the 1998-1999 Agawam Ski Saver Card a tremendous success. Your continued support is truly appreciated.

Due to popular demand, the new and improved 1999-2000 Agawam Ski Saver Cards will be on sale starting May 15th. Watch the Advertiser News for information.

The Agawam Ski Parents Association



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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786-8137

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Regular Town Council Meeting Agenda For Tuesdays, Feb. 16, 1999

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 2/1/99
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
None.
7. Report of Council Committees
None.
8. Elections
None.
9. Public Hearings
None.
10. Old Business
 - (a)
 1. TO-99-1-Total review of Council Rules and Regulations (Pres. Rheault)(Referred to Rules and Reg. Comm. on 1/19/99)(Tabled on 2/1/99).
 2. TO-99-2-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St., F.H., MA. (Tabled on 2/1/99).
 3. TO-99-3-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden St., F.H., MA (Tabled on 2/1/99).
 4. TO-99-4-Transfer-\$50,000.00 from Agawam Municipal Golf Course Revenue Surplus to Stabilization Fund (Mayor).
 5. TO-99-5-Transfer-\$120,000.00 from Agawam Municipal Golf Course Revenue Surplus to Agawam Municipal Golf Course Start up Capital (Mayor).
 6. TO-99-6-Application for License for one (1) automatic amusement device for Luigi's Pizza-N-Pasta, 7 So. End Bridge Circle.
 7. TO-99-7-Establish a 3-member committee to review salaries of the Mayor, Council, School Committee, and all boards here and other communities (Pres. Rheault).
 8. TO-99-8-Transfer-\$30,000.00 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Line Item-Professional Services (16602-52190)(Mayor).

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 18, 1999 at 7:15 PM at the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Town Council for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, by adding a provision relative to delaying the demolition of historically significant buildings. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF
Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: February 11, 1999

ADVERTISER NEWS

Legislative Committee Appointments Tap Keenan's Experience

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce his committee assignments for the 1999-2000 legislative session in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Speaker Thomas Finneran appointed Keenan to serve on the Education, Insurance, and Taxation committees, tapping Keenan's strengths and experience.

"I'm very happy to be returning to three strong and influential committees," said Keenan. "I anticipate being very busy."

Thousands of bills will come before the Education, Insurance, and Taxation committees in the upcoming session before they make their way to the House floor for debate. Tax cuts, auto and health insurance reform, education reform, and testing of teachers are expected to be popular issues in the legislature.

"As a member of these committees, I will have a first-hand opportunity to shape public policy in areas that directly affect the lives of the citizens of the Commonwealth," Keenan stated.

Keenan has been a member of the Taxation and Insurance committees since 1995, and a member of the Education committee since 1997.

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Take The "Love Test"!!!

It only takes a minute to do the "love test" for your family, by testing the batteries in your smoke detector.

Approximately two-thirds of American homes have installed smoke detectors, but one-third of those smoke detectors don't work. The reason — a dead or missing battery.

Each year in the United States, more than 500,000 home fires occur, resulting in 6,000 deaths and 130,000 serious injuries. Many of these tragedies could be avoided with properly installed and maintained smoke detectors.

You should take the love test at least once a month and replace the batteries on an annual basis. For more information on installing and maintaining smoke detectors, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

* * *

Check our classified ads each and every week...

* * *

Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

Some Important Information Regarding Annuity Payments

Last week, I attended the Mass. Veterans' Agents Mid-Winter Conference. I make it a point never to miss any of these very important conferences, which help me to keep abreast of any and all changes under the Chapter 115 Program as well as VA benefits.

Many of those eligible for the 100-percent, service-connected disability annuity through the State Dept. of Veterans' Services, as well as Gold Star Parents, may be wondering why they have not received the checks. We have the scoop!

The initial request to the legislators was for \$10 million to fund the expected number of applicants for this benefit; however, the actual funded amount was much less.

Part of the Governor's supplemental budget includes funds for all annuitants. Those who applied and were not paid will receive payment through the current period. Hopefully, funding will be received by April and payments will be brought up to date.

Also, be advised DVS has requested that they be permitted to make payment of half of the annuity amount in February and August of each year rather than the January and July dates.

VA Home-Loan Program Extended For Reservists

A recently passed bill in Congress extends the DVA's home-loan guarantee temporary program four more years. The decision to extend VA assistance to part-time service members and reservists is now guaranteed until 2003.

Had this legislation not been passed, the program would have ended October 29, 1999. VA statistics cite that 55,000 Reserve and Guard veterans have bought homes with guarantees

since the program began in November 1992. They have borrowed a total of \$5.2 million.

The following is a list of Agawam Vietnam era veterans whose Home of Record is Agawam. These names will be included on our Honor Roll when completed.

If your name or the name of a loved one is missing and they served on active duty during a wartime era and lived in Agawam upon entry into the military, please contact our office and provide a copy of the veteran's DD 214. Also, please check list for correct spelling of your name.

This week, we are publishing veterans whose last names end with the letter "L."

AGAWAM VIETNAM VETERANS - "L"

Arthur A. LaBelle, Henry L. LaBelle, David W. LaBranch, Richard J. Labun, Norman R. Lacasse, Philip A. LaChapelle, Norman R. LaFleche, Gerald R. Lafleur, Wayne A. LaFlamme, Nelson J. LaFrancis, Richard A. Lake, Roderick A. Lamothe, Anthony C. Landi, Mark R. Langevin, John A. Larese, Edward F. LaRocque, Richard Lavalette.

Edward E. Leal, Roger R. Leclair, Anthony J. Lessard, Walter T. Letellier, William Letendre, Alfred E. Levesque, Ernest A. Levesque, Raymond G. Lewis, Jr., Clyde E. Light, Richard A. Light, Robert R. Light, Eugene E. Lindsay, John H. Lipatik, Jr., John F. Litchfield, Robert T. Liucci.

Peter B. Lockhart, John F. Loncrini, Donald E. Loncto, Alexander Loss, George F. Luccardi, Charles E. Luginbuhl, Donald C. Luginbuhl, Robert G. Lund, Kenneth J. Lussier, Michael S. Lynch, Patricia A. Lynde, Thomas E. Lyon.

New Rules On Mass. Democratic Delegates

New rules will allow Agawam Democrats who have been registered by December 31, 1998 to run for delegate to the Mass. Democratic Convention to be held in Springfield on May 15th by mail.

You may send your request to run for delegate to Mary Manning, 62 Stewart Lane, Agawam, MA 01001.

This request must reach her by Saturday, February 13th. For further information, call Meanette Vermes at 789-2974.

Keenan Announces Job Opportunities

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan encourages anyone interested in obtaining seasonal employment with the Department of Environmental Management to contact his district office at (413) 786-4545.

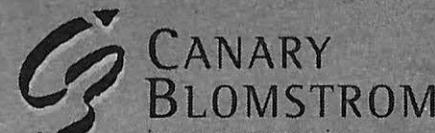
Positions ranging from laborer to lifeguard are available at DEM facilities, including Robinson State Park, Granville State Forest, and Tolland State Forest. The requirements for employment vary according to the position.

Our office will be open on Monday, February 15th — Presidents' Day ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Let Us Guide You

Do you ever feel like you're fumbling around in the fog when you're trying to find the right homeowner's insurance? Let Canary-Bломstrom guide you.

We take the time to get to know you, assuring that you'll get the right coverage at the right price.



"A Neighbor You Can Turn To"

• Homeowner's Insurance • Mortgage Insurance • Auto Insurance • Life Insurance

Call for a complimentary evaluation for your insurance needs.

789-3995

— Agawam Obituaries —

Lawrence W. Kwiat

Lawrence W. Kwiat, 70, of Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

He was a heavy-equipment operator for Zielinski Bros. Contractors and Lane Construction.

A lifelong resident of Agawam, he was a 30-year elder with the Associated Bible Students, and a 39-year member of Local 98 of the International Union of Operating Engineers.

He leaves his wife, the former Joanne Buravich; a son, Jonathan of Madison, Connecticut; a daughter, Pauline Santoro of South Windsor, Connecticut; his mother, Florence Kwiatkowski of Agawam; a brother, Ronald Kwiatkowski of West Springfield; a sister, Virginia Gilbert of Agawam; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, New York, 10023.

John C. Pupello

John C. Pupello, 77, of Feeding Hills, died recently at home.

He was a shop manager at Hodge Manufacturing of Springfield for 30 years.

Born and raised in Avon, he was a long-time resident of Feeding Hills and a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He leaves his wife of 53 years, the former Carmella A. Librera; a son, Leonard of Feeding Hills; two daughters, Lenora Bourgeois of Naples, Maine, and Mary Sullivan of Feeding Hills; a brother, Dominic of Avon; two sisters, Mary Kiley of Brockton and Lena Bogdanoff of Avon; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Katherine Kane

Katherine (Reilly) Kane, 99, of Country Estates of Agawam, died here recently.

She was employed by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co., and later worked for the City of Springfield at City Hall.

Born and educated in Killorglen, County Kerry, Ireland, she previously lived in Springfield.

* * *

For copies of his photos in this edition, please contact AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Jack has all the negatives and will be more than happy to help you...

* * *

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Hope Church, Springfield.

Her husband, John J. Kane, died in 1954.

She leaves a daughter, Ann Shea of Springfield; 15 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

She was predeceased by two sons, James J., who died in 1994, and Gerald J., who died this year; and two daughters, Mary Downie, who died in 1987, and Frances Fitzgerald, who died in 1980.

The funeral was held at Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mullins School, 54 Windsor Street, Ludlow, MA 01056, or to Our Lady of Hope Church, 577 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01140.

Lois Blake-Haskins

Lois (Johnson) Blake-Haskins, 88, of Agawam and formerly of Edisto, South Carolina, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was a registered nurse at several hospitals in Rhode Island and New Jersey and retired in 1965.

Born in Rumford, Rhode Island, she was a graduate of East Providence, Rhode Island High School and the Trusdall Hospital School of Nursing in Rhode Island in 1932. She was a postgraduate at Rutgers University.

Her husband, William Blake-Haskins, died last March.

She leaves two sons, Fred W. Hannon of Punta Gorda, Florida, and John Blake-Haskins of Piscataway, New Jersey; a daughter, the Rev. Ann E. Geer of Feeding Hills; a sister, Doris T. Winslow of Rumford; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was at the convenience of the family, and Alternative Funeral Service of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Jerry J. Spagnuolo, Jr.

Jerry J. Spagnuolo, Jr., 67, of 45 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

He was a wire finisher for the Techally Co. in Northampton, retiring in 1997.

Born in Springfield, he lived in Agawam most of his life and was a 1951 graduate of Agawam High School.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He leaves a daughter, Cheryl A. Ferris of Wilbraham; a stepson, Gary Fusick of Agawam; a stepdaughter, Sue Hayden of Windsor, Connec-

ticut; two sisters, Marie C. Shedd of Westfield and Louise S. Bachta of Agawam; and four step-grandchildren.

A son, Michael, died in 1972.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and in Sacred Heart Church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Alma G. Bassett

Alma G. (Cooke) Bassett, 84, of Reeds Landing, Springfield, a former secretary for Berkshire Life Co. in Lenox, died recently at home.

She retired in 1978.

She worked previously for the Berkshire Boy Scout Council in Pittsfield.

Born in Springfield, she was raised in Richmond and lived in Agawam for 18 years before moving to Springfield two years ago.

She was a graduate of Pittsfield High School and Bay Path Junior College in Longmeadow.

She leaves her husband, Edward Bassett; two sons, Frank Kendall III of Wayland and Ronald Kendall of Alexandria, Virginia; two daughters, Susan Voinche of Limington, Maine, and Janet White of Akron, Ohio; and six grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Frank Kendall, Jr.

A memorial service was held at Agawam Congregational Church, and Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Open Pantry, 287 State Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Margaret Morris

Margaret (Bailes) Morris, 89, of 81 Liberty Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

Born in Concord, North Carolina, she lived in Feeding Hills for more than 20 years.

She was a former member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Her husband, Robert W. Morris, died in 1986.

She leaves a sister, Willie Mae Volrich of Feeding Hills, and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery in Agawam.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rowley Memorial Animal Hospital Shelter, 53 Bliss Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Be Aware Of New Firearm Regulations

The Agawam Police Department would like to remind gun owners to safely store their guns. The new firearm laws demand that adult owners of guns keep those weapons away from children under the age of 18 by storing them in places not accessible to such children or securing them in locked containers.

This requirement does not apply where the gun is under the *direct control* of the gun owner. Violations of the section of the law will result in possible fines or imprisonment.

Moreover, improper storage shall be evidence of "wanton or reckless" conduct in cases where failure to safely store weapons leads to the injury

or death of another committed by a minor under 18 years of age who is not properly licensed.

This evidentiary standard may be used against the gun owner in both criminal and civil actions. To be more specific, if a child (under 18 years of age) injures or kills someone with your gun, you are responsible as the gun owner.

The Agawam Police Department requires all of its off-duty officers to secure their department-issued pistols in locked containers. As an added security measure, for the safety of children and others, the police department has also issued trigger locks to all of the officers for use with their department weapons.

THANK-YOU...

Clara Lorenzatti and her family send their deepest gratitude to their many friends, relatives, and neighbors for the kind and gentle words, flowers, cards, and support during their time of grief over the death of Armand Lorenzatti.



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Monitor Resolution Up In Smoke At School Committee Meeting

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

More than a dozen parents and students watched their hopes of having bathroom monitors at the High School go up in smoke at Tuesday night's School Committee meeting.

After receiving an 11th-hour recommendation from School Superintendent Frank Ameruoso and AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski to withdraw the request for monitors from the agenda, the committee tied in a 3-3 vote against an amended resolution to hire three bathroom monitors for five hours a day at the hourly wage of \$6.50. Failing to garner a majority, the resolution was defeated and no member voting on the prevailing side (against) would agree to reconsider the vote.

In opposing the resolution, School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson, Vice-Chairwoman Susan Pettazzoni, and member Linda Galarneau cited other spending priorities, a lack of funding for the program next year, dissatisfaction with the job description, and the cost of providing employee benefits for the monitors.

Money in the summer school tuition account would have covered the cost of monitor salaries for the trial program, but continuing the program next year was estimated to cost the School Department \$40,000, including the cost of medical, dental, and life insurance and unemployment insurance.

Predicting that the town would receive about 50 percent less of an increase in state funding this year, Johnson questioned where the committee would find the money to pay for monitors when "there are going to be a number of requests for teachers, textbooks, and library books."

Ameruoso said he did not recommend hiring monitors if the funding would create a choice between monitors and other priorities. "The bottom line is: I don't want to be told at budget time that it's a case of monitors or a teaching position. If the money is sparse, monitors would not be my highest priority. Teachers, textbooks, and library books are my top priorities," Ameruoso said.

In favor were committee Secretary Teresa Kozloski and committee members Roberta Doering, Louis Massoia, Jr. They argued that hiring monitors was "money well spent and a step in the right direction" (in solving a health issue that should take top priority). Committee member Rosemary Sandlin was absent.

Vowing to make sure the school budget doesn't include spending "thousands of dollars" to send administrators to conventions, Mrs. Kozloski urged a tryout of monitors until the end of the year. "Our top priority is health and we have the money to pay for this 'til the end of the year. It pays for us to try it out."

Parents And Students Address Committee...

Several parents and students addressed the School Committee to complain about the treatment afforded to student government representatives at a School Committee meeting two weeks ago and to urge the committee to support a resolution calling for three part-time monitors to be hired on a trial basis until the end of the school year.

Two weeks ago, Interact representatives told the committee the students were asking for monitors because other methods of curtailing smoking in the High School's bathrooms have been unsuccessful, thereby rendering the bathrooms unbearable for the majority of the students (many of whom wait until they get home from school rather than use the bathrooms at school).

Also, the students said the presence of monitors would help prevent littering and vandalism and ensure that the bathrooms were stocked with soap, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Ken Fleming, a member of the School Improvement Council and the parent of a student at the school, chided the School Committee. "If this problem existed in our workplaces, we'd never accept it. Yet we accept it in our students' workplace."

Other speakers said the committee's treatment of the student representatives was "a slap in the face" to young people who were trying to improve the school by working within the system and following the proper channels.

Most speakers underscored the health and safety aspects of the problem, and many spoke in favor of monitors to free up teachers to "do their real jobs."

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Announcing the formation of a task force to pursue an extensive study of the options for curbing smoking in the High School bathrooms, in addition to or in lieu of monitors, Ameruoso said, "We feel more needs to be done beyond monitors."

The task force, consisting of Ameruoso, Deputy Superintendent Donald Charest, Zabielski, four students, and a parent volunteer, met for the first time on Tuesday to discuss several options, including the installation of a state-of-the-art ventilation system to improve the health environment of the bathrooms, and the imposition of fines to further discourage smokers from violating both the school rules and state law by smoking on public school property.

"Fining is very effective," Ameruoso said. "We are seeking a legal opinion on a fining proposal. We can't just put it in place unilaterally."

Sitting in the audience, Zabielski was not invited to address the committee. After the meeting, Zabielski said he agreed to recommend withdrawing his request for monitors because the votes (on the School Committee) weren't there and because he strongly supports the idea of imposing fines to deter smoking at the school.

"I could see a renewed commitment toward having a fining system," Zabielski said.

Ameruoso said teachers and a health professional would be added to the task force, and it was suggested that a member of Town Council and a School Committee member join the group.

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12 YEARS:

Pauline Berthiaume, Treasurer; Stephen M. Ceccarini, Fire; Dolores M. Cichetti, Auditor; Stanley J. Chmielewski, Jr., Police; June M. Chriscola, Assessor; Judith M. Clin, Library; Doris A. Cooley, Collector/Clerk; Joseph L. Edwards, Police; Donald W. Gallerani, Police; Venerdi F. Grumoli, Bldg. Maintenance; Theresa M. Hill, DPW; Richard A. Light, Jr., Police; Theodore T. Lockwood, Bldg. Maintenance; Betty A. Manchino, Police; Thomas E. Marmo, Police; Nancy E. Modzelewski, Health; Paul D. Murphy, Police; Angel M. Ramos, DPW; Howard N. Rogers, DPW; James M. Zerra, DPW.

11 YEARS:

Scott E. Barker, Fire; Keith R. Bopko, Police; Phyllis J. Bryan, Library; Eric E. Camerlin, Police; Jo-Anne H. Candido, Assessor; Norman W. Colburn, Fire; Perfecto Colon-Gonzalez, Bldg. Maintenance; Edward B. Connor, Police; Elizabeth A. Couture, COA; Ann Marie Hartmann, Collector; Pamela R. Kerr, Planning; Paul E. Mazza, DPW; Jolene Mercadante, Library; Paul B. Meunier, Bldg. Maintenance; Rose J. Palazzi, Auditor; Mark T. Pfau, Police; Donna M. Roberts, Library; Carolyn A. Widmer, Clerk.

10 YEARS:

Robert F. Burke, Police; Lawrence M. Bouchard, DPW; Ronald L. Carroll, Bldg. Maintenance; Susan R. Cormier, Library; James T. Daley, Engineering; James F. Donovan, Police; Arthur M. Dupre, Bldg. Maintenance; Roberta L. Forques, Bldg. Maintenance; Jennifer E. Glover, Mayor; Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor; Mark P. Jopson, DPW; John W. Kunasek, Jr., Police; Kristine D. LaBelle, Police; Eric W. Lottermoser, Police; Donna J. Markowski, Health; Gary A. Roberts, Bldg. Maintenance; Georgiann Thompson, Fire; Richard D. Veighey, DPW; Alonzo E. Waterman, Bldg. Maintenance; Wayne E. Wright, DPW; Judy A. Zukowski, COA.

NINE YEARS:

Steven J. Grasso, Police; Coleen E. Hebert, Data Processing; Paul J. Mercadante, DPW.

EIGHT YEARS:

Joanna M. Fazio, COA; Michael Gramolini, Bldg. Maintenance; Kevin K. Marek, Bldg. Maintenance; Scott A. Mitchell, Fire.

SEVEN YEARS:

Richard A. Pryce, Bldg. Maintenance.

SIX YEARS:

Robert J. Connell, Sr., DPW; Gina L. Frasco, Parks and Recreation; Jose J. Goncalves, DPW; Gary P. Hare, DPW; Peter F. Mathes, COA; Roger L. Perusse, DPW; Joseph J. Valego, DPW.

FIVE YEARS:

Maurice P. Boutin, DPW; Edward A. Bushaw, Bldg. Maintenance; Laurel A. Placzek, Treasurer/Collector; Peter J. Sadowski, DPW; Daniel L. Sullivan, Bldg. Maintenance.

* * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

* * *



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT DONALD RHEAULT (far right) with Department of Public Works employees at a recent "Employee Appreciation" luncheon at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



HONORED MEMBERS OF THE Agawam Police Department with Mayor Johnson and Council President Rheault. The "Employee Appreciation" luncheons took place on January 11th, 13th, and 14th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MAYOR JOHNSON AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT RHEAULT with the honored members of the Agawam Fire Department. This recognition program will be an annual event in Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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(12 Pk. Btls.) **\$8.99**

Harpoon (12 Pk. Btls.) **\$9.99**

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Contributions Sought By "Friends" Of The Leonard House

February is "Friends Month" at the Captain Charles Leonard House. Once a year, the Board of Trustees invites all residents, social groups, and businesses to become a "Friend" by donating a gift in any amount to help with the upkeep of Agawam's most historical building.

This past year, the Leonard House underwent its first major renovation since 1938. The Pine Room was completely redone so that now it matches the interior design of the rest of the house. The pine walls were completely renovated, and sheetrock with plaster was installed.

New doors were also installed, and a fireplace was added. This past December, at an open house, the renovation was unveiled and the room renamed "The Minerva Davis Meeting Room," in her honor.

During the summer, the Trustees also decided that the kitchen should be updated. New cabinets and counters were installed, and the walls were wallpapered. Floor boards in poor condition were replaced with boards taken from the attic, as was common practice in repairing homes of this period.

The two small doors leading to the kitchen and old kitchen were discovered to be original pegged, hand-hewn doors, and they were restored to their original condition.

The Leonard House Trustees are very happy with the results of this project. Comments from the public heard during the open house in December were also very favorable. Of course, with a project of this size, costs were a bit more than anticipated.

The Trustees are asking for support in helping to pay some of the leftover bills. Please consider becoming a "Friend" in 1999 by sending a tax-deductible contribution in any amount to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Donors' names will be recorded in the "Friends" record book kept in the front hallway of the Leonard House.

"Oldies Dance" Slated At Italian Sporting Club

On Saturday, February 20th, the Italian Sporting Club will host an "Oldies Dance" to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America.

D.J. Joe Dailey has donated his services for the dance and will play songs from the 50's, 60's, and 70's.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m., and hot and cold hors-d'oeuvres will be served from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. There will also be snacks provided throughout the night, as well as door prizes, trivia contests, a raffle, and more.

The Agawam SIS Bank is helping to sponsor this event, along with many other local businesses who have generously contributed raffle prizes.

There are limited tickets at \$10 per person, and they are available at the Italian Sporting Club, Gordon Lasalle Music, or Valenti's Restaurant. Please call one of these locations if you are interested in donating a raffle prize, becoming a sponsor, or would like more information.

One-hundred-percent of all proceeds will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



AT AN OPEN HOUSE held in December, the Pine Room of the Captain Charles Leonard House was renamed "The Minerva Davis Meeting Room" (pictured above and below). During the month of February, the "Friends" of the Leonard House are seeking donations to help with the upkeep of this historical building. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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Agawam Senior Center's Calendar Of Feb. Events

Friday, February 12th: Classes cancelled; Valentine Party (\$3; music by Jimmy, Alex, and Charlene).

Monday, February 15th: Senior Center closed (Presidents' Day).

Tuesday, February 16th: 9:00, SHINE Rep./Exercise; 9:30, Sewing/Knitting; 11:30, Mardi Gras visit; 12:30, Movie/Ladies' Pool; 1:00, Computer Class; 1:30, Open Art Studio; 3:00, Chorus; 7:00 to 8:00, Caregivers Support Group.

Wednesday, February 17th: 8:30, Tax preparation; 9:30, Tap Class; 10:15, Jazz; 1:30, Golden Agers (Chapter 1).

Thursday, February 18th: 9:00, Food & Fuel Assistance; 9:00, Foot Care Nurse; 9:00, Exercise; 10:00, ASGA; 10:00, Calligraphy; 1:00, Pitch; 1:00, Line Dancing; 2:30, Melody Band.

Friday, February 19th: 10:00, Tai Chi; 1:00, Glucose test (\$2 donation); 1:00, Duplicate Bridge; 1:00, Cribbage; 1:00, Organ Lessons.

Monday, February 22nd: Chapter 2 Mohegan Trip; 9:30, Tai Chi STV; 9:30, Rug Design; 1:00, AARP; 6:00, Mental Health Support Group.

Tuesday, February 23rd: 9:00, Exercise; 9:30, Sewing/Knitting; 12:30, Movie; 12:30, Ladies' Pool; 1:00, Computer; 1:30, Art/Atty. Deegan; 3:00, Chorus; 4:00, COA.

Wednesday, February 24th: 8:30, Tax preparation; 9:30, Tap Class; 10:15, Jazz; 1:30, Golden Agers (Chapter 1).

Thursday, February 25th: 8:45, Bull Run Trip; 9:00, Food & Fuel Assistance; 9:00, Exercise; 10:00, Calligraphy; 10:45, "Health Focus" (topic - nutrition); 1:00, Line Dancing/Pitch; 2:30, Melody Band.

Friday, February 26th: 10:00, Tai Chi; 1:00, Duplicate Bridge; 1:00, Cribbage; 1:00, Organ Lessons.

Please be sure to patronize your local businesses...

* * *

Historical Program At Heritage Hall East...



ON A RECENT AFTERNOON at Heritage Hall East, Mary Jackowski and Emelia Gheno were among the residents who listened to a program on history by Barbara Schaefer (far right) from the Springfield Museums. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP Chapter Schedules Meeting For February 22nd

The Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP chapter meeting is slated for Monday, February 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The meetings are always open to new members. If you are a member of the national AARP, you may join the local chapter prior to any of the monthly meetings.

Following the meeting on February 22nd, there

will be an informative video titled "It Can Happen To Anyone," featuring actor Ed Asner. Following the video, Richard McKearn, director of detoxification and rehab services at Providence Hospital, will be on hand to speak on the use and abuse of alcohol as we get older.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 22nd!

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On February 27th At Chez Josef...

WMass. Epilepsy Comm. Slates Fifth Annual Dinner Dance

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee will hold its Fifth Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 27th, at Chez Josef in Agawam from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Founded by Carol Pietroniro of Feeding Hills, whose 12 year-old son is afflicted with epilepsy, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee is a grassroots organization formed five years ago to raise awareness of epilepsy and to provide funds for research.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the first "Camp for Kids with Epilepsy" in Massachusetts. Since 1995, the group has raised over \$75,000 to benefit Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, and the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Music for dancing throughout the evening will be provided by D.J. Ross MacDonald.

As part of this year's Fifth Annual Dinner Dance, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee will honor Dr. George Howard from the Department of Neurology at Baystate Medical Center with their "Inspiration for a Cure Award."

"The award recognizes Dr. Howard's commitment to patients and families with epilepsy," Pietroniro said.

Epilepsy, which can affect anyone at any age, is a brain disorder often characterized by seizures. Research and improved medical treatments now make a normal life possible for the majority of people with epilepsy, but many are still discriminated against socially. Many others are still receiving less than optimal treatment for their seizure disorders and could benefit from a medical reevaluation of their case.

Recently, the efforts of Carol's group, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee, were recognized by the Epilepsy Foundation of America which honored the group with its National Community Awareness Award in September 1998 at their national convention in San Antonio, Texas. The group was nominated for the award by the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

To raise additional funds, a large silent auction will be held during the dinner dance. Among the auction items will be a baseball signed by Mickey Mantle, a poster signed by Joe DiMaggio, gourmet wines, a fishing trip, a trip to Foxwoods Casino, a day of sailing, a \$1,000 gift certificate for an auto paint job, and much more.

Tickets for the Fifth Annual Dinner Dance are \$25 per person and are available by calling: Vincent and Carol Pietroniro at 786-9452, Wayne and Sue Hearn at 789-1529, Diane Perra at 786-9284, Rick and Kim Martel at 786-1169, and Donna Kerley at 592-5305.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, headquartered in Boston, is the only not-for-profit organization in these states specifically dedicated to the welfare of more than 70,000 persons with epilepsy/seizure disorders in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

* * *

Our office will be open on Monday, February 15th — Presidents' Day...

* * *

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Entertaining The Residents Of Heritage Hall



IN LEFT PHOTO: Penny M. Schebel and Romona Bedard at a recent "cocktail party" at Heritage Hall's West Building. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Heritage Hall south resident Mary McGrath listens to the guitar-playing talents of Albert DiPietro. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

"Health Focus Club" Is Now A Monthly Activity At The Agawam Senior Center

The club will meet on the fourth Thursday morning of each month from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. at the Senior Center. Seniors are encouraged to stay for lunch.

At 1:00 p.m., the Agawam town nurse, Sherry Petrucci, R.N., will be available to take blood pressures and help answer medical questions.

Future dates and topics are as follows:

February 25th: Nutritional health with Linda Galarneau, dietitian and coordinator from Greater Springfield Senior Services.

March 18th: Eyesight and eye care by Baystate Senior Class.

April 22nd: Foot and feet care with a podiatrist.

May 27th: Heart and skin health and care by Agawam Medical West.

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* * * * *

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AT THE RIBBON-CUTTING for Heritage Hall East's dining room: Mayor Christopher Johnson, Mrs. Bobbie Andrews (president of the resident council), and Mr. Ira Schoenberger (administrator of Heritage Hall East). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Dining Room Dedicated At Heritage Hall East

On February 3rd, after months of discussion and planning, the dining room of A wing at Heritage Hall East was officially dedicated as the AGAWAM ROOM.

Mayor Christopher Johnson presented the residents with a plaque from the citizens of the City of Agawam, which expressed appreciation to the residents for their choice of Agawam in naming this area.

The citation was accepted by resident council officers Mrs. Bobbie Andrews (President), Miss Jeanne Carnevale (Vice-President), and Mrs. Linda Guyette (Treasurer). A ribbon-cutting was held with Mayor Johnson, President Mrs. Bobbie Andrews, and the administrator of Heritage Hall East, Mr. Ira Schoenberger.

In addition, a beautifully framed picture of the Town Hall of Agawam, which was donated by Councilor George Bitzas, was given to the residents on this occasion.

The morning festivities continued with refreshments and entertainment.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 15th: Senior Center closed (Presidents' Day).

Tuesday, February 16th: Shepherd's pie, broccoli, whole wheat bread, mixed fruit.

Wednesday, February 17th: Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, squash, corn muffin, cookie.

Thursday, February 18th: Tortellini soup, meatball grinder, tossed salad, jello with fruit.

Friday, February 19th: Baked fish, spinach, rice Pilaf, whole wheat bread, tapioca pudding.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

— Have a happy Valentine's Day —

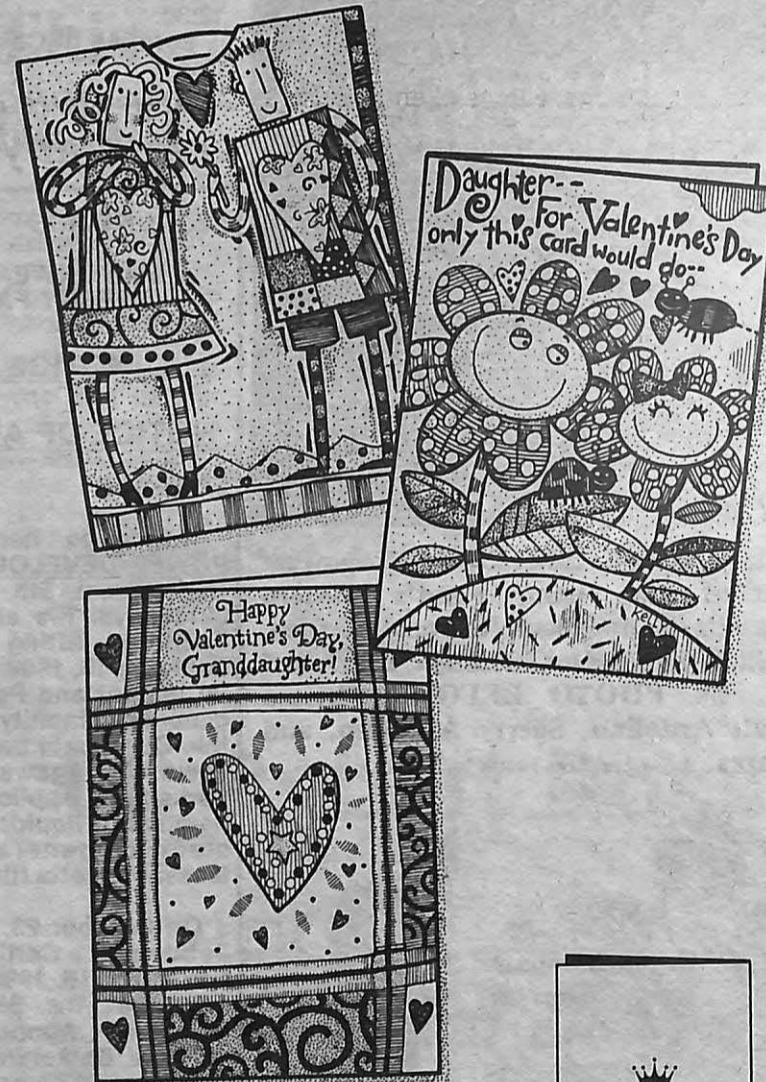
Best local news - AAN!

XOXO

Valentine "hellos" are a breeze with Light Hearts cards from Hallmark.

Greet all of your favorite Valentines with lighthearted sentiments and eye-catching drawings. The perfect card is only Light Hearts away. XOXO.

Valentine's Day is Sunday, February 14.



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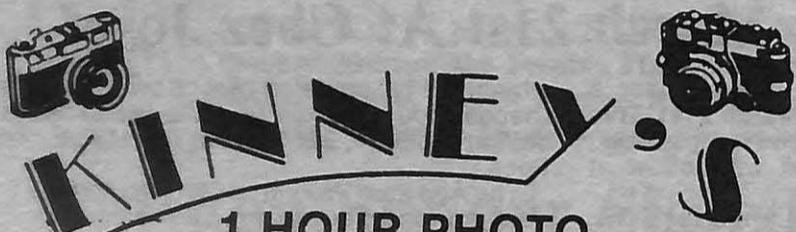
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Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tel. 786-2407

Winter Special '99



KINNEY'S
1 HOUR PHOTO
And Studio

371 Walnut St. Ext.
Agawam

786-4340 / 786-0347

- Every Monday and Thursday, bring in a roll to be developed and receive a second set of prints or a roll of film for \$1.00 (1-hour, next-day service only; color only).
- On Tuesday, buy one, get one FREE on color enlargements from same 35 mm negative (5x7, 8x10, 11x14 only; glossy only).
- On Wednesday, when you buy one reprint, get the second one FREE from the same 35 mm or 110 mm negative (color, glossy paper only).
- On Friday, bring in a roll of 24 exp. and/or 36 exp. to be developed, and receive a FREE roll of film (1-hour service only; color only).

Offer Ends March 20th!

**★ 24 Exposures For \$6.99
2-Day Service**

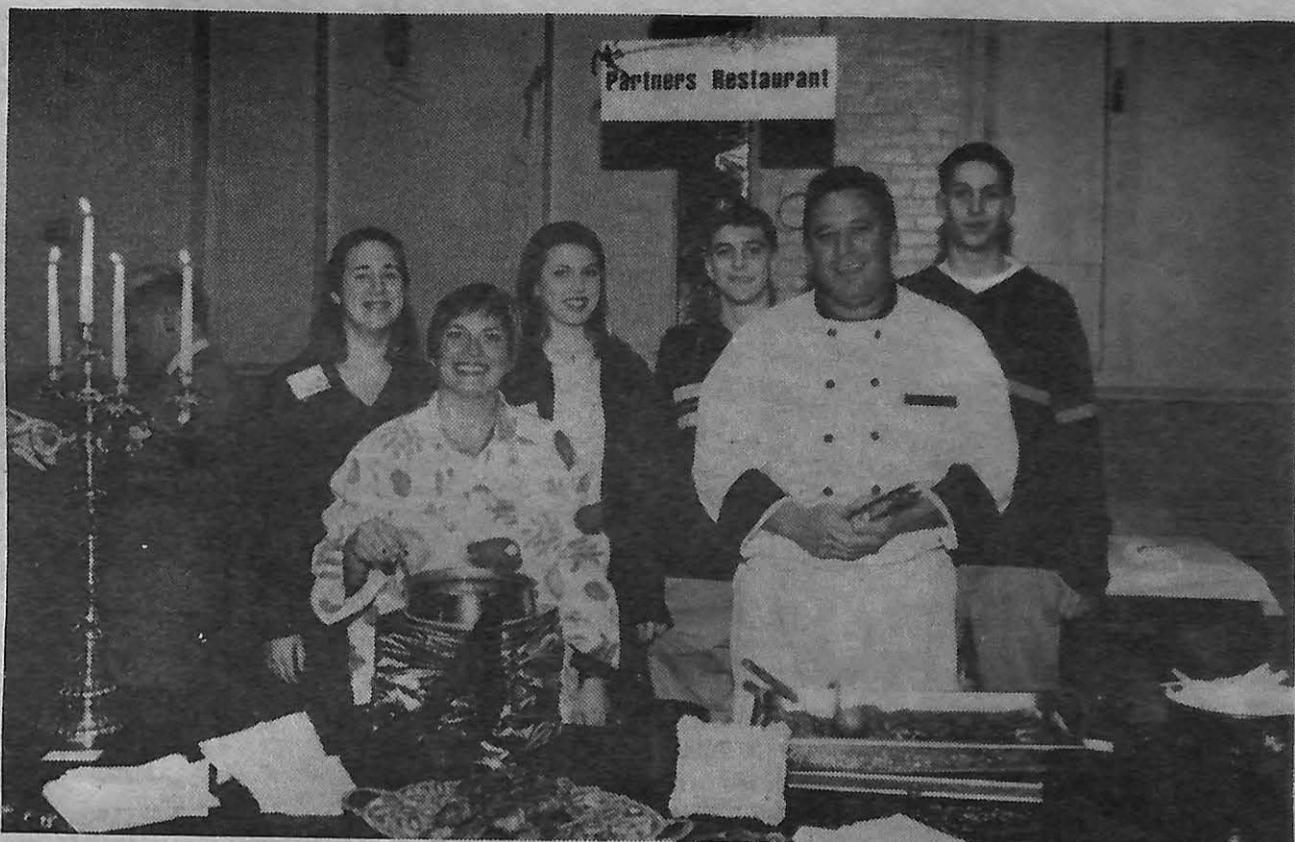
(1 Set Only; Color 35 mm, 110 mm)

Local Restaurants Support The Jimmy Fund...

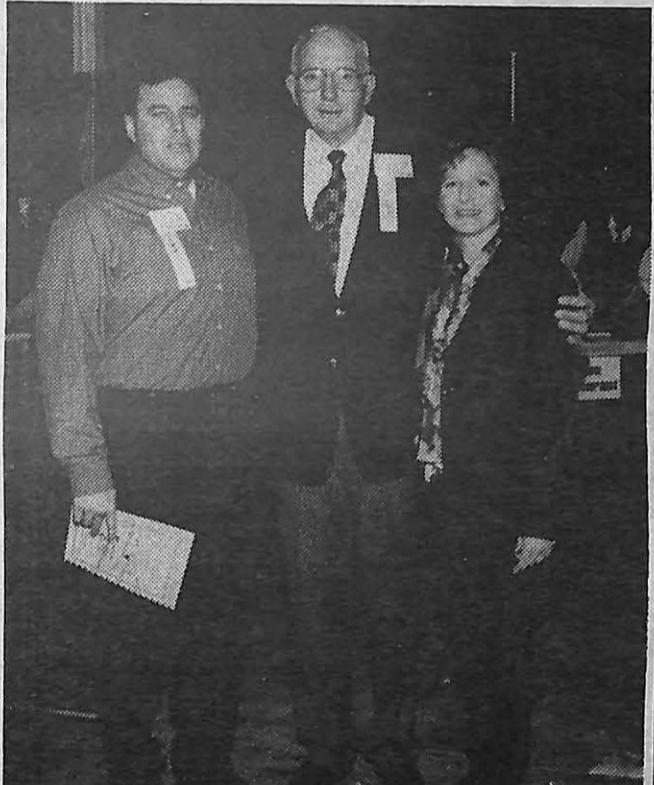


FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Shawn Gloster, Einar Gustafson (The Jimmy Fund's original "Jimmy"), Rich Gloster (owner of Alvin's Sandwich Shops of Agawam), and Mary Doty.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AT THE "Great Chefs Swing with Jimmy," a Jimmy Fund fundraiser which featured area restaurants on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition last Friday evening, February 5th. Back row - Agawam youngsters Lauren Kida, Keegan Clark, Joe Clark, and Matt Shea. Front row - Sue and Mark Tansey of Partners Restaurant. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



IN PHOTO ABOVE: Peter Clark of Agawam (president of The Jimmy Fund's Western Massachusetts/Connecticut Regional Office), Einar Gustafson, and Korby Clark of Agawam. **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Theresa Shea, Matt Ardolino, Sherry Ardolino, and Jewel Mazza. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Agawam Women's Club Schedules "Fashion Show" For March 21st At Chez Josef

The Agawam Women's Club will sponsor a Fashion Show to take place on March 21st. This will be held at Chez Josef with social hour starting at 12:00 noon and the luncheon will follow at 12:30.

Lorraine of Chicopee will furnish the fashions,

which will be modeled by our own members and friends. You may join us for a fee of \$20 and by calling 786-3091, 594-5355, or 789-1481 for reservations.

The Agawam Women's Club would love to have you join them for this fun-filled afternoon.

Our deadline is Tuesday at noon; however, we appreciate any articles that can be brought in on Mondays.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATORY HEARING

EFSB 98-6

Notice is hereby given that BERKSHIRE POWER DEVELOPMENT, INC. ("Berkshire"), 200 High Street, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, will file an Application with the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") on February 19, 1999 for a Certificate of Environmental Impact and Public Interest with respect to a generating facility ("Certificate"). Berkshire seeks this Certificate because the Town Council of the Town of Agawam ("Town Council") denied Berkshire's application for a license to store inflammable liquids or compounds at Berkshire's electric generating facility in Agawam, Massachusetts (the "Facility").

On October 23, 1998, Berkshire filed an Initial Petition for a Certificate with the Siting Board. On November 16, 1998, the Chair of the Siting Board held that the Siting Board would (1) accept Berkshire's Application for a Certificate; (2) consolidate Berkshire's Initial Petition and its Application; (3) defer a decision on the merits of the Initial Petition; and (4) adjudicate Berkshire's Initial Petition and Application concurrently.

The Siting Board will review Berkshire's Initial Petition and Application to determine whether the issues raised by the Town Council regarding the Facility have been addressed in a comprehensive manner by the Siting Board in its approval of the Facility under G.L. c. 164, 69J or in its review under G.L. c. 164, 69K½. In addition, the Siting Board will address (i) the compatibility of the generating facility with considerations of environmental protection, public health, and public safety; (ii) the extent to which construction and operation of the generating facility will fail to conform with existing state and local laws, ordinances, by-laws, rules, and regulations and reasonableness of exemption thereunder, if any, consistent with the implementation of the energy

LEGAL NOTICE

policies contained in chapter 164; and (iii) the public interest or convenience requiring construction and operation of the generating facility. SEE G.L. c. 164, 0½.

The Siting Board will conduct an adjudicatory hearing to address Berkshire's Initial Petition and Application on TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1999 AT 10:30 A.M. in the Main Hearing Room at the offices of the Energy Facilities Siting Board, 100 Cambridge Street, 12th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02202.

The Facility, which is approximately 40 acres, is located in an industrial park in Agawam, Massachusetts. The Project is a nominal net 272-megawatt natural gas-fired, combined cycle independent power plant. It will be fueled primarily with natural gas. The Facility will use low sulfur (0.05%) No. 2 distillate fuel oil as a fuel source when gas is unavailable. An oil storage tank of 500,000 gallons (approximately a 1½ day supply of fuel oil) will be maintained on site. In its Initial Petition and Application, Berkshire seeks a Certificate to allow it to store fuel oil in the storage tank located at the Facility.

Persons desiring additional information should contact the Siting Board at the address or telephone number below. Interested persons may submit written comments of the contents of this public notice. All written comments must be submitted to the Siting Board by MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1999. Persons wishing to be admitted as parties in interest to proceedings on the Initial Petition and Application must file a petition to intervene with the Siting Board no later than MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1999.

A copy of the Initial Petition and Application may be inspected at the offices of the Siting Board at the address set forth below, the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA or at the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

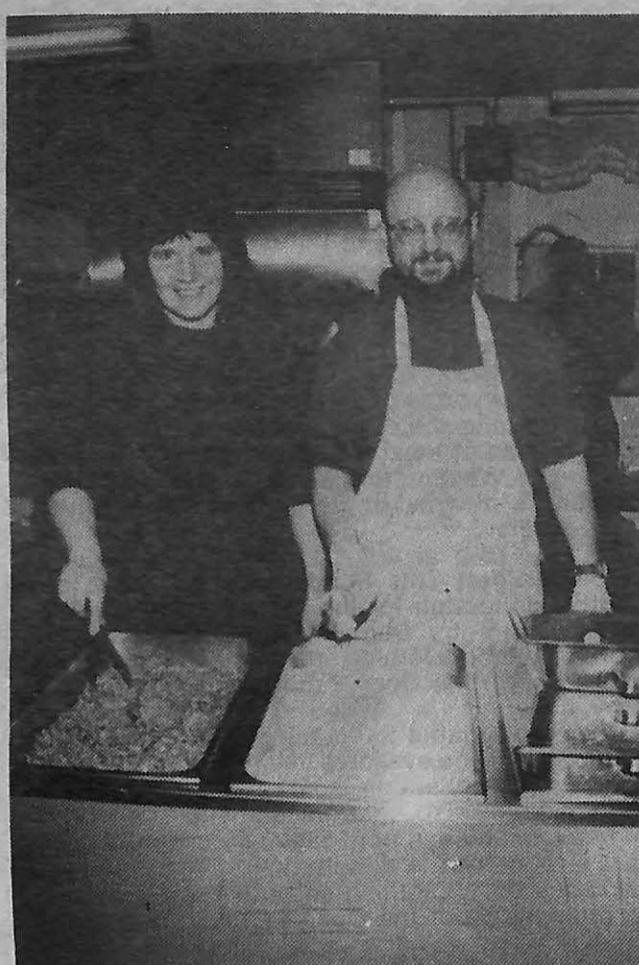
Energy Facilities Siting Board
100 Cambridge Street, Room 1304
Boston, MA 02202
(617) 305-3525

Date: February 12, 1999

Published: February 11, 1999

Church News

Operation Friendship's Roast Beef Supper...



THE FEEDING HILLS CHAPTER of Operation Friendship held a roast beef supper on Saturday, January 30th, at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. Pictured from left to right: Lucy Young, Rachel Caruso, Valerie Lorenz, Rev. Rob Donaldson (pastor of Feeding Hills Congregational Church), and Ben Rozanski. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Chicken Supper Slated For This Sat. At Valley Community Church

Did you miss that delicious chicken supper last month at the Valley Community Church? So did we, since we had to cancel due to the storm.

But, not all was lost. The chickens had a month to get bigger and juicier in time for this Saturday's dinner, February 13th, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. All the fixings will be there, along with our famous dessert table, and all for just \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Get your reservations in early by calling Melody and Jeff Hill at 789-2552, or leaving a message at

the church, 786-2445.

Valley Community Church is located on top of the hill at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. We are a non-denominational congregation that welcomes all people of the Christian faith to share God's word with us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship and Sunday School follow at 11:00 a.m., as well as Bible Study with our interim Pastor Rev. Robert Loesch.

"Church News" is a regular feature of The AAN...

* * * * *

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383 WALNUT STREET, AGAWAM

"Mystery Dinner" At Mittineague Church

The Mittineague Myster Players of Mittineague United Methodist Church, 800 Amostown Rd. in West Springfield will offer a fun-filled Mystery Dinner Theatre.

Seats are still available on March 5th and 6th at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 (including dinner) per person. The menu includes chicken and the fixins'.

Call 788-0304 for more information or reservations or contact Stella Rogers at 739-6190.

The church is located across from Fausey School.

Retirement Party In Honor Of **Lt. Robert Rossi**

*At Chez Josef
Agawam*

6:00 P.M. - Feb. 26

Tickets Available At:
Bruno's Pizza
Agawam Police Station
Bobby's Lounge

Or By Calling: 789-3194

Church News - continued...**St. John's Parish News And Notes****WELCOME TO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

We welcomed the following children into the Body of Christ during January:

Sean and Sherie Cassidy, children of Michael & Donna; Rachel Catherine Carmel, child of Stephen & Carol; Meghan Elizabeth Gendron, child of Marc & Katherine; Thomas David Hendrickson, child of David & Laura; Bryanna Kacie Montalvo, child of Gilbert & Desiree; and Nicole Alexandria Plasse, child of Thomas & Terri.

LAST CALL FOR ST. JOHN'S MEN RETREAT

Many of you men have been thinking about making this retreat. However, job schedules have not been firm enough for you to decide.

It is still not too late — there are a few reservations still available. Get in touch with Ray Provost at 786-6483.

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining should call Frank, 789-2764, or Kay B., 786-8442.

Upcoming Events:

February 12th: Singles Dance/Adelfia's. Cost is \$8. Contact Kay, 786-8442.

February 21st: Lunch and/or tour of Springfield Armory. Contact Carol, 789-2843.

February 26th: Bay Path College's production of "Bye Bye Birdie." Contact Joanne, 786-1583.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday morning. Interested? Call Annette at 786-4977.

Each Friday morning, a video presentation of Sunday's Scriptures in the Parish Center after Mass.

MILLENNIUM

The millennium is upon us and St. John's Parish Community is getting prepared to have a series of ongoing events throughout 1999 and 2000.

Think about getting involved with planning and participating in these events. We will keep you aware when the next millennium meeting will take place in February.

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, February 14th, is Boy Scout Sunday at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. Members from Troop 82 will usher, greet, acolyte, and present an Honor Guard for the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Join us for this special day with the Boy Scouts.

The Heifer Project Dedication will also be this Sunday, when monies collected will be distributed through the United States and the world to help rural people in need.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be, "God is Forgiving, Faithful and Mysterious," taken from Text: Psalm 99. His Children's Message will be, "I Will Sing."

The Adult Bible Discussion Group will now meet each first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:45 p.m., following the Midweek Service. The next Discussion Group will meet on February 16th.

All are invited to attend this informal, non-threatening, fun group. For more information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

Men's Prayer Time is held weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. This half-hour includes a devotional reading, prayer, and a time of refreshments and fellowships.

All are welcome to this very special time. For more information, contact Rev. Fuller at 786-7111.

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, February 17th, at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for this special service as we begin our Lenten journey.

Calling all painters! Below Bryan Hall (church school classrooms), all walls have been prepared for primer paint. Join us on February 18th, 19th, and 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the 19th, to help out.

Also, on February 15th and 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, youth and adults are needed to prepare and paint our Youth Room.

All supplies will be provided. Following the project, pizza and soda will be provided for our helpful painters.

For more information on this project, call the church office at 786-7111.

All the hometown news with us ... AAN!!!

* * *

Weekly List Of Announcements From Feeding Hills Congregational Church

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Sunday worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for February 14th, the last Sunday after Epiphany, will be Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2 or Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

* * *

The Confirmation Class will be going on an exciting field trip to Washington, D.C. next week! The group of young people, accompanied by Rev. Donaldson and their chaperones, will be staying in the homes of local church members.

While in Washington, a trip to the Holocaust Museum is planned as part of the Confirmation Class studies.

* * *

Don't forget! This Sunday, we will have our monthly collection for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed. Please bring your items to the Open Pantry table in the sanctuary.

If you are unable to donate a bag of groceries, envelopes will be available in the sanctuary on the Open Pantry collection table for cash donations.

Remember, also, that our satellite site is now open on Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. This site is for the distribution of monthly food packages only. Clothing and other services may be obtained from the Open Pantry in West Spr-

ingfield. Food and clothing donations should be brought there as well.

* * *

The deadline to submit articles to the church newsletter is Thursday, February 18th.

Submissions may be mailed to the attention of Elaine at FHCC, P.O. Box 264, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Or you may drop them in the office mailbox at the church.

* * *

There will be a special service here on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Again this year, the service will be taken from the UCC Book of Worship and include the receiving of ashes as a sign of repentance.

* * *

Blanket Sunday will be February 21st. Church World Service can purchase a good, quality blanket for \$5.

This has been a year of many natural disasters, and there is an overwhelming need for help. Please be generous on Blanket Sunday.

* * *

On the calendar:

Sunday, February 14th: 10:00 a.m., Open Pantry Sunday.

Monday, February 15th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Trustees.

Tuesday, February 16th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

Wednesday, February 17th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Ash Wednesday Service; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., Christian Ed.

Thursday, February 18th: Newsletter deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Sacred Heart's Calendar Of Events**ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

The next sign-ups for the Sacred Heart Athletic Association will be held on Thursday, February 18th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and also on the weekend of February 27th/28th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ANNULMENTS

Has the Church changed its view on marriage? Why does the Church allow annulments? Are annulments just another name for divorce, Catholic style?

Take this opportunity to have your questions answered by Sr. Claire Lapointe, SASV of the Diocesan Tribunal Office, on Saturday, March 6th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of Religious Education, 625 Carew Street, Springfield.

Please send registration and check to "The Office of Religious Education." The deadline for registration is February 26th, and the fee is \$3.

For more information, call Donna Meyer, 452-0810.

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES

The Agawam Catholic Singles Group meets once a month.

This Friday, February 12th, a "Singles Dance" will be held at Adelphia's. The cost is \$8. For more information, call Kay at 786-8442.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

More precious than money — your love!

Give from the heart this Valentine's Day. Renew your relationship on a Marriage Encounter Weekend, February 19th-21st or April 23rd-25th.

For information and registration, call Bob & Marie Lussier at 783-0889.

Don't spend Valentine's Day in the Doghouse...need we say more?

*Just a friendly reminder
from your friends at*



Agawam Flower Shop

430 Main St. Agawam fax # 786-0456

786-7427

We're
Delivering
Valentine's Day!

Church News - continued...

*Reflections...*

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
 Pastor of the New Life
 Christian Church,
 Suffield, CT
 (413) 789-1377 or
 toll free (877) 643-9801

Jesus Not A Right Wing Fanatic

When the Apostle Paul first arrived in the city of Corinth to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he deliberately kept his message short and his theme simple. "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

The cross of Christ is the bridge between a sin stricken, fallen humanity, and God. The cross of Christ is where, as one author put it, "Heaven's peace, and perfect justice, kissed a guilty world in love." The cross of Christ is God's answer to our problem of sin.

Another author wrote, "When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride." The cross of Christ is one of the great levelers of humankind; nobody is too good for it, and nobody is too bad for it, either. The cross of Christ is for everybody.

Tragically, the cross of Christ has become subjected to shame in recent times. The cross of Christ is rejected by many because of the shame to which it has become subjected. The cross of Christ has become subjected to shame, not by its enemies, but by its alleged friends. The cross of Christ has in recent years been abused by people who would use it for their own personal or political agendas.

The so-called "Religious Right" and self-proclaimed "Christian Coalition" have together done far more to harm and shame the cross of Christ than all the atheists put together. Some of the ultra right wing protestors at abortion clinics, screaming at already troubled people and applauding the work of murderers, are part of this crowd.

Nobody in the Church is commissioned by God to add anything to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do these self-righteous people think they're the only ones entitled to have an opinion? Jesus also had opinions about politics, but He kept them to Himself. On only one occasion He slipped, referring to King Herod as "that fox." By so doing, He let us know that He, too, had opinions, but He did not let them interfere with His mission: to proclaim the Gospel.

When the "Religious Right" and the "Christian Coalition" and their crowd intermix the Gospel of Jesus Christ with their own bigotry and hatred, no wonder many people are put off. However, observers of such blasphemy must learn to separate the wheat from the chaff for themselves. The "Religious Right" and the "Christian Coalition" do not represent the cross of Christ and the attitudes of God any more than any other self-deluded fanatic. Please do not mistake their agenda as representative of Christianity. It's not.

There stands a world of difference between the way Jesus would approach the issues of our day and the way the "Religious Right" and the "Christian Coalition" do. For example, contrast the way Jesus responded to the woman caught in adultery with the hardliners at abortion clinics. About Jesus, Isaiah said, "He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick." To the fanatics of His day Jesus said, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." When the crowd dissipated, Jesus asked the woman, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin." We must never allow anybody to dissuade us from the cross of Christ. Jesus said, "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."

Faith Bible Church In Agawam Hosting Year-Long Seminar

Faith Bible Church, located at 370 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, is now hosting a 52-week series seminar entitled "The End Times."

Presented by Pastor James R. Jasmin, this series of Tuesday evening teachings will present current prophetic truths based on Scripture.

Discussions will include eschatology, significant current events that point to us on a Biblical timeline, and what the new millennium is going to bring according to Scripture.

Meatloaf Dinner To Be Held On February 27th At Agawam Congregational Church

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Meatloaf Dinner on Saturday, February 27th, at 5:30 p.m.

The dinner includes meatloaf, baked potato, green beans, salad, rolls, and dessert. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church, located at

745 Main Street, Agawam. Reservations are recommended, but a few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling Anne Hamel at 786-2908 before 12:00 noon on Friday, February 26th.

All the local news with us, every week...

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the interest rate and the annual percentage yield will be reviewed twice during the term of the certificate. Specifically, these reviews will be done on the first business day of July 1999 and January 2000. The reviewed GR rate will be based upon the most recently auctioned rate of the six month U.S. Treasury Bill prior to the review date. If the U.S. Treasury Bill rate is higher, the certificate rate will increase. However, if the U.S. Treasury Bill rate is lower, the starting rate will remain in effect until the next review.

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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is \$1,000.00. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY is accurate as of 1/28/99. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are FDIC insured to \$100,000.





Spotlight On Business

Pedestrian Bridge Framework Now Spans Main Street...

Riverside's \$6 Million Traffic Improvement Plan Underway

Riverside Park's \$6 million traffic improvement plan began taking shape recently with the arrival and installation of a major section of the Park's pedestrian bridge. The \$2 million bridge, which spans across Route 159, will allow guests easy access to Riverside's west parking lot.

Construction crews hoisted box beam supports and attached them to the concrete side supports on both the east and west sides of Main Street. "This is the next major step in completing the bridge," stated Tim Black, Riverside's General Manager. "Once the support structure is in place, we will be able to begin the final design of the town's first official gateway to the community," Black added.

Riverside officials have worked closely with the Agawam Beautification Committee and town officials to ensure the bridge will complement Agawam's appearance and personality. The bridge and gateway will be completed in early April prior to the Park's April 24th opening day.

"The bridge will allow Park guests to cross Main Street without stopping traffic," stated Jerry Gretzinger, Riverside Park's Public Relations Manager. "The bridge, along with the Park's plans to expand the turning lanes into the parking lot will greatly improve the flow of traffic along Main Street," Gretzinger added.

Riverside Park is owned by Premier Parks, Inc., the world's largest regional theme park company with 31 parks, including parks serving nine of the 10 largest metropolitan areas in the United States and six locations in Europe. The company annually hosts nearly 40 million guests. A publicly held corporation with corporate offices in New York City and Oklahoma City, Premier Parks trades on the NYSE under the symbol: PKS.

**For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads ...
ADVERTISER NEWS**



PICTURED ABOVE is a portion of Riverside's pedestrian bridge, which is being installed as part of the Park's \$6 million traffic improvement plan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

**Our "Spotlight On Business" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week...
ADVERTISER NEWS**

Agawam Chamber Of Commerce Approves A New Logo

The Agawam Chamber of Commerce held its January Board of Directors' meeting on Tuesday, January 26th. Among the many issues and programs discussed was the new Chamber logo.

The development of a new logo has been discussed for more than a year by board members. Ron Severt, of Riverside Park, is a member of the Chamber's Board of Directors and generously offered to design a new look for the Chamber through the use of his marketing department.

A logo should reflect the town's most well-known aspects and be recognizable almost instantly. The marketing department at Riverside accomplished this goal by creating a new logo that depicts Veterans' Green. The Chamber is grateful to Ron Severt and his marketing staff for their hard work, creativity, and generosity.

The Agawam Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce that it will unveil its new logo at their Annual Legislative Breakfast on Friday, February 26th. The breakfast will be held at the Captain Leonard House beginning at 7:15 a.m.

Other business discussed at the Chamber's Board meeting was the need to identify new leadership for the Chamber's Board. Each year, seven business representatives must step down to make room for new business participation.

Don Anderson of BankBoston is Chairperson of the Chamber's Nominating Committee and is seeking business leaders that would like to contribute their time to serving the Agawam Chamber of Commerce. You must be a member of the Chamber to accept this responsibility.

The Agawam Chamber of Board of Directors meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Standard Uniform and is charged with identifying the needs and concerns of the business community. As needs are identified, the Chamber develops programs and services to address them, making Agawam a better place to live, work, and operate a business.

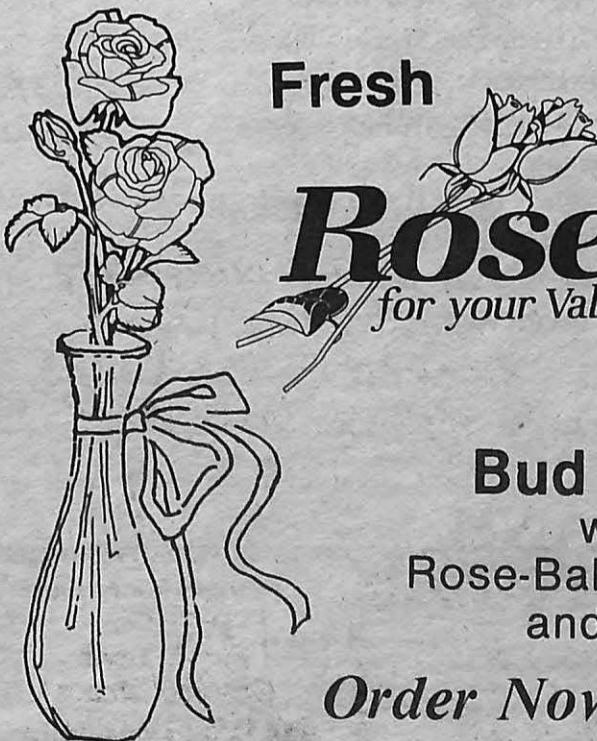
For more information about the Agawam Chamber of Commerce, call Debra A. Boronski at 755-1309.

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Roses
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Bud Vases

with
Rose-Baby's Breath
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Order Now for Valentine's Day Pick-Up

1236 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, Mass.

786-0370

Hours
Mon. - Sun. 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thurs. & Friday till 8 p.m.



Valentine's Day

Sunday - February 14th

Valentine Table Arrangements

Carnations



Spotlight On Business - continued...

JERRY GRETZINGER

Riverside Park Welcomes New Public Relations Manager

Local Former TV Anchor Jerry Gretzinger Joins Staff

Onetime television news anchor, Jerry Gretzinger, is the newest member of the Riverside Park management team. Gretzinger will serve as Public Relations Manager.

"I'm very excited about working for Riverside and Premier Parks. It's a great company and I'm thrilled to be a part of it," stated Gretzinger. "I'm working at the fastest-growing regional theme park in the world. It doesn't get any better than that," he added.

Gretzinger recently left the television business, where he was a popular morning news anchor and reporter at WWLP-TV22 in Agawam from 1995 to 1998. He also worked at WGGB in Springfield as a general assignment reporter before beginning his new career at Riverside.

"Jerry's television news experience will be a wonderful asset to the Park," stated Ron Severt, Riverside's Director of Marketing. "His ability to communicate with the public will be a great addition to our management team," he added.

Gretzinger received his Bachelor's Degree in Radio/Television/Film Communications from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. His prior public relations experience includes Bacchanalia Productions, a New York theatre company, before taking his first job in television.

He replaces Shari Blackman as Riverside's Public Relations Manager. Blackman has taken a position in Riverside's Marketing and Guest Services Department.

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**The Right Time To Buy...**

If you're thinking about buying your first home, here are some facts about homeownership that may help you make a decision to buy soon.

- Homeownership can be a good investment

PAM SAVIOLI'S COLUMN is a weekly feature of *The Agawam Advertiser News...*

opportunity. A house offers leverage and the possibility for appreciation in value.

• Mortgage interest and property taxes are tax-deductible, so homeownership can save you money each year.

• Young people aren't priced out of the market — according to the National Association of Realtors, the average age of first-time buyers is 32 years-old.

• Renting doesn't protect you against rising prices. Rental units are faced with increases in taxes, insurance, and utilities — and those costs will be passed on to tenants.

• The waiting game is a losing game. Don't put off buying a home waiting for prices to come down.

For more information on buying a home, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

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Ribs	\$1.19 Lb.
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10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.

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Fresh Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Doz.)	99¢
Friendly Ice Cream (1/2 Gal.)	2/\$7.00

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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Legal Memo**

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454

**PREMISES LIABILITY**
Letter Carrier - Collapse Of Mailbox

The plaintiff was a letter carrier completing a mail delivery to a free-standing mailbox. As the plaintiff inserted a key to lock the doors of the box, the entire unit fell forward and pulled the plaintiff down on top of the box, as the key was attached to a chain secured to his waist.

Almost immediately after the accident, Postal Service representatives arrived at the scene and took pictures that showed the mailbox on the ground with the stair tread still attached.

The plaintiff alleged that the owner failed to maintain the property in a reasonably safe condition and that the installing contractor failed to adhere to reasonable construction practice in securing the box with four lag bolts rather than the concrete footings, tie rods, and securing bars.

The plaintiff suffered a soft tissue back injury and incurred approximately \$34,000.00 in medical expenses, about \$22,000.00 of which was for an intensive program at a Rehabilitation Hospital.

The medical evidence indicated that the plaintiff's condition required permanent light duty work and that he had suffered a permanent seven percent (7%) whole person impairment. There was no evidence of a prior contributory medical history. The plaintiff alleged lost wages of \$83,000.00.

The owner defended primarily on the basis that he wasn't aware of any defective condition. However, evidence showed that the defendant developer/owner/property manager was a licensed construction supervisor, that he had a substantial construction background, and that he was an experienced property manager, real estate agent, and developer.

The installing contractor defended primarily on the basis that it didn't install the box and that the installation was protected by G.L.c.260, sect.2B, the statute of repose. However, the jury determined the contractor to be the installer and the court denied all post-trial motions based on the applicability of the statute of repose.

The jury found in favor of the plaintiff, who was awarded all medical expenses, lost wages, and compensatory damages in the amount of \$4,379,000.00.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

ODYSSEY II

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**Timely Tips On How To Manage Your Finances**

by **Sue N. Alvanos**
Personal Financial Advisor
American Express

Two Ways To Benefit When The Market Is Down

The prices of stocks, bonds, and other investments are occasionally pushed down by market worries — and that can be a good time to add to your portfolio at value prices.

Over short periods, securities' prices can slide as investors fret about company earnings, economic problems, interest rate changes, politically uncertainty, or other factors — even though the investments' fundamentals are sound. If you suspect that such emotional swings are short-term blips on a long upward trend, the opportunities they present become clear. Here are two ways to make the market's ups and downs work for you.

Rebalance regularly: To take advantage of down-market values, rebalance your portfolio's asset allocation regularly by buying more shares of underweighted assets. For example, if you start the year with a 50-50 stock/bond allocation and stocks underperform during the year, buying more stocks to restore your intended mix may help you buy at lower prices rather than when everything's looking rosier — and more expensive.

Dollar-cost averaging. Another way to take advantage of market dips is by using an investment method called dollar-cost averaging. The strategy works over the long term because it relies on regular, fixed investments to buy more shares when prices are lower, thus reducing an account's average price per share.

To dollar-cost average, you simply invest the same amount in a mutual fund or other investment at regular intervals. As the price of the investment fluctuates over time, you buy more shares when they're cheaper and fewer when they

are more expensive.

Dollar-cost averaging not only lowers your average cost per share, it also lets you avoid the worry about timing your investments and eliminating the possibility of investing all of your money at an inopportune time.

There are several easy ways to put dollar-cost averaging to work for you.

Investing automatically. Automatic investment programs offered with mutual funds let you transfer a set amount regularly from your checking or money market account into fund shares. You simply choose a fund, fill out an authorization form, and it's done.

Reinvesting dividends. Having your mutual fund or stock dividends automatically reinvested into additional shares is another way to dollar-cost average. But because dividend amount may not be exactly the same each period, the results may differ from fixed-investment methods.

Contributing to a 401(k). Your 401(k) or other employer retirement plan lets you contribute a set amount from each paycheck and invest it in your choice of the plan's investments. With many plans, you not only benefit from dollar-cost averaging, but also receive tax-deferred growth plus a possible employer match.

Doing it yourself. You don't need a special program or account to start dollar-cost averaging. You can work with a financial advisor to set up a schedule of fixed investments that you can make monthly, quarterly, or at whatever interval you like.

Regardless of which dollar-cost averaging method you choose, remember that the strategy does not assure a profit or protect you against a loss in declining markets. And because the benefits are realized over time, you should be prepared to continue it during periods of low and high prices.

The value of planning. Both portfolio rebalancing and dollar-cost averaging are best done as part of a long-term investment plan. If you don't have a clear investment strategy, consider working with a knowledgeable financial advisor to define your goals and how you intend to achieve them. Then you'll be in a better position to see the bright side of volatile markets when they occur.

Sue N. Alvanos is a Feeding Hills resident. Call her at 534-3883, extension 225, American Express Financial Advisors, Holyoke.

Walnut Street Cleaners To Support Easter Seals Programs With Month-Long Fundraiser

Beginning February 15th, the Walnut Street Extension Cleaners customers who bring their trousers in for cleaning will also be helping Easter Seals.

For each pair of trousers, 25 cents will be donated to support Easter Seals programs and services for children and adults with disabilities.

"I know that the money we raise will help children and adults in our local area," says owner Liz Greenway.

The fundraising event will run until March 15th at the 380 Walnut Street Extension location in Agawam.

Easter Seals programs and services include physical, speech, and occupational therapy, adaptive swim programs, residential camping for children and young adults, equipment loan, stroke support groups, and technology for independence.

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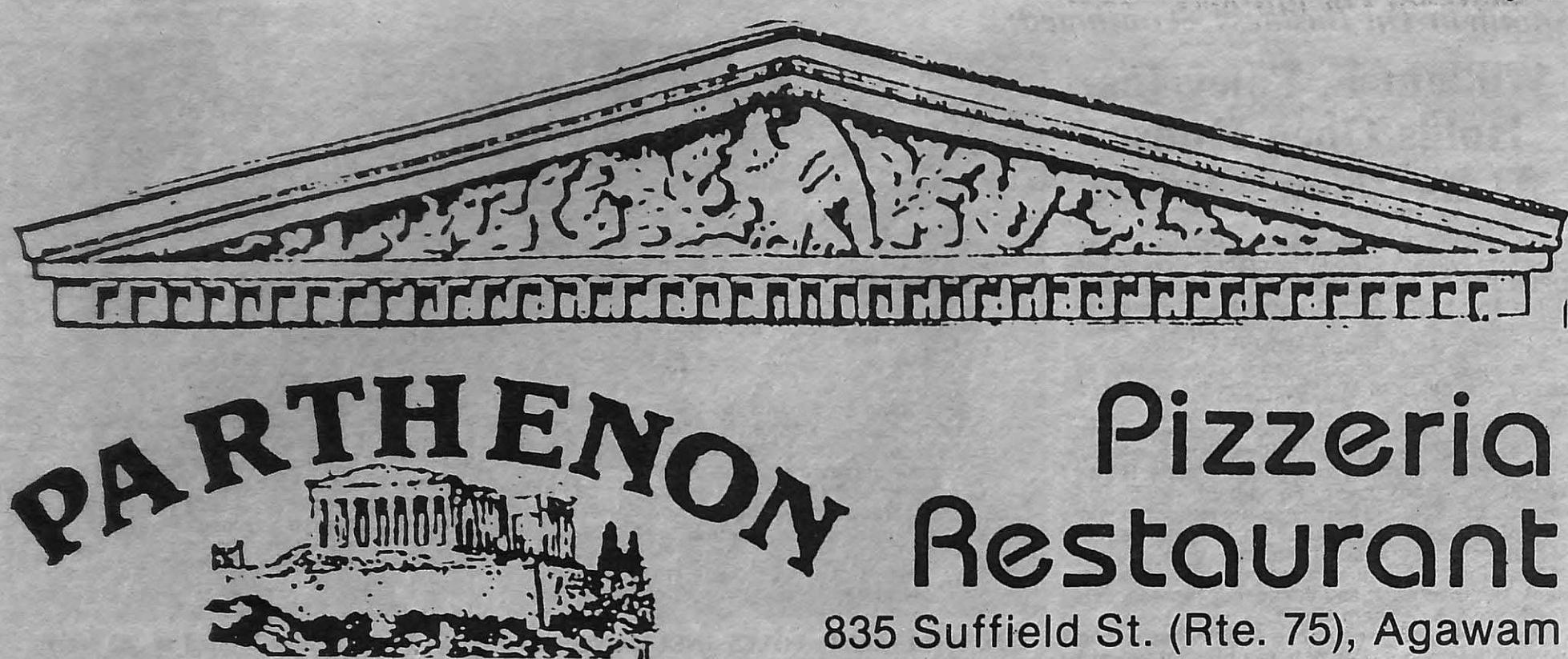
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

William F. Foley Ins. Holds Open House At Its "New" Home

On January 26th, enthusiastic friends and insureds of William F. Foley Insurance attended an OPEN HOUSE hosted by Gabriele Moore, president, and Linda Bovat, secretary/treasurer, in celebration of their new home at 341 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The move was necessitated in part by lack of space. The death of Mr. Foley was the other factor.

The event included good food, good company, lots of handouts, several raffles, and a special "Grand Prize" drawing for a gift certificate. Randy Wright of Acorn Lawn Equipment, 1355 Springfield St., Feeding Hills was the delighted winner of the gift certificate. Representatives of MassWest Insurance Company and Quincy Mutual Fire Insurance Company were also present. The third company the agency represents is the Norfolk & Dedham Group.

William F. Foley Insurance Agency has a long, rich history, some of which was highlighted with pictures and mementos at the Open House. Friends remembered Bill Foley, as he was fondly known.

Bill began in the insurance business over 45 years ago. At one time, he had an office on Maple Street in Springfield, but due to his wife's illness, he "pulled back" and placed his business through other agencies. As his wife improved, he again opened his own agency in 1984, working out of his home at 81 Hamilton Circle, Feeding Hills.

Gabriele joined the agency in 1986 on a "temporary job" basis. Bill mentored her and she remained there, learning every aspect of the business. In 1990, Bill's wife passed away and now Bill mentored Linda (she'd been caring for his wife), teaching her the business.

And so it was that two very unlikely women became partners in the insurance business. Gabriele and Linda had always gotten along very well, especially given the very close working environment of the old location. Bill recognized a "good duo" and groomed them for their present responsibilities. An interesting fact is that Linda and Gabriele have the same birthday.

While the entire process is bittersweet, and they miss Bill immensely, Gabriele and Linda are excited about their new venture. They look to the future for new friends and growth, but also to the past for old friends and loyalties. One "hall" of their new home will be dedicated to the memory of Bill Foley. A private dedication is planned sometime in June.

If you didn't get a chance to stop in during the Open House, Gabriele and Linda ALWAYS have "Open House" and invite you to stop in for a cup of tea or coffee. The agency is full-service, offering AUTO, HOME, BUSINESS, LIFE, and DISABILITY.



THE WILLIAM F. FOLEY INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. is now located at 341 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Last month, an open house was held to commemorate the agency's move to a new location. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AT THE OPEN HOUSE for William F. Foley Insurance (from left to right): Linda Bovat (secretary/treasurer), Gabriele Moore (president), Stella Starzyk, Amy Lango, and Dorothy Lango. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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SERVICE

I come before You with open hands, o Lord of my life, to make myself available to You, to serve You as You please. My hands are empty, signifying that I have nothing to offer You except the life and talents You have given me. I forsake any ambition or agenda which is not of You. Please anoint and empower these hands, that I may be an instrument of Your grace, to accomplish Your will and purpose in my life, and in the world around me.

REQUESTS

I come before You with open hands, Father, to receive from You Your gifts of grace, to the exclusion of all the world would offer me, the devil tempt me with, or that which I might invent for myself. I praise You that Your gifts are good, chosen by Your wisdom and inspired by Your love. I thank You that Your grace is more than sufficient for any need I may have.

Courtesy of the NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Spotlight On Business - continued...

COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
THE PIONEER GROUP

**Do Not Cash Out
Your Retirement Plan**

When switching employers, always roll over your retirement plan to an IRA. The vast number of Americans have saved little or no money for retirement. Yet 60 percent of company retirement plan distributions were cashed out in 1998.

A HUGE DIFFERENCE

The difference between cashing out your retirement plan and leaving the money alone until retirement is substantial. Take John, a 30 year-old executive, he contributed \$2,000 per year for six years to his company's 401(k) plan. Including earnings, his account is now worth approximately \$15,000.

But John just accepted a position with a new company, and must decide what to do with the money in his retirement account. Faced with the possibility of a substantial cash "windfall," he is considering buying a new car, taking an exotic vacation, or even using the money to put a down payment on a new home.

Let's look at the numbers. If John withdraws the money now, he will pay a 10 percent penalty because he is younger than age 59½. Also, he must pay federal and state income taxes, which means that of his entire \$15,000 investment, he'll only receive about \$8,000.

But if John rolls the money over to an IRA and leaves it alone until he's 65, his original \$15,000 investment could be worth as much as \$400,000 by retirement. So, John can either take \$8,000 now or \$400,000 later. It's that simple.

ROLL OVER TO AN IRA

If you do leave a company, do not cash out your company retirement account and spend the money. Instead, roll the money over to an IRA account. Just ask your account custodian to liquidate your account and give you a check for the proceeds. It is important that you tell the custodian that you intend to roll the funds to another IRA account, so that he does not withhold taxes.

You then have 60 days to "roll the money over" to an IRA. If you do this, there are no tax liabilities or penalties. Just make sure you follow these rules *perfectly*, because if you don't, you could lose a huge chunk of the money to the IRS.

An easier way is to sign a form that enables your boss to send your money directly to your IRA. It'll take a few weeks, but you don't have to worry about that 60-day clock, or the temptation to spend the money while it's in your hands!

**Geraldine Maynard
Named 'Employee Of
The Month' At Mercy**

Geraldine Maynard, R.N., of Feeding Hills has been selected as Mercy Hospital's Employee of the Month for February.

Maynard, a member of the hospital's Surgi-Center outpatient surgery unit staff, was nominated as a result of potentially life-saving actions taken when a fellow employee experienced a medical emergency.

In a congratulatory letter, Edmond L. Plummer, Jr., CEO, Acute/Ambulatory Network, Sisters of Providence Health System, wrote: "Through your actions, you personify the values of compassion, justice, and respect for human dignity which are the cornerstone of the Mercy Hospital mission, and that of our sponsor, the Sisters of Providence."

The award was presented February 2nd, at a sunrise party hosted by the Surgi-Center and attended by hospital management and members of Spirit, Mercy Hospital's employee relations committee.

As Employee of the Month, Maynard received preferred parking privileges, lapel pins, and gift certificates to the Holyoke Mall. In addition, her department will display the Employee of the Month trophy throughout February and her name will be added to a plaque honoring outstanding employees.

* * *

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* * *

**Travel
Talk...**

by Lori Keeley, CTC
Travel Connections, LTD
10 Chestnut Street
West Springfield, MA 01089
(413) 732-1313

What's A Processing Fee?

There has been a huge change in the relationship between airlines and travel agencies in the past five years. I thought this would be a good time to let the consumer in on some information regarding your airline ticket purchases.

Well, where do I begin? Let's start with the basic fact that for the past 25 or so years, airlines have courted travel agencies to sell people on their airline and the airline would pay that agency a 10 percent commission on the airline ticket.

Airlines couldn't do enough for you as a travel agent; i.e., free airline tickets, free trips, special incentives, etc. Well, all that has changed. First came the caps. The airlines decided now that we have all this agent support to distribute our product, let's cut the amount of commission we pay them.

We will cap the commission on any ticket over \$500, and only pay them \$50. Well, of course, the travel industry was up in arms, but what could we do? We tried to sue. That went on forever and we ended up with a very small settlement. Yet, the

caps remained in place. Then, in the fall of 1997, the airlines decided that since the caps worked, let's drop the commission from 10 percent to eight percent.

So, they did. Now, let's do the math on a \$100 airline ticket. That amounts to about \$8, but the commission is before any airport or government taxes. So, the rate goes down to about \$6. Not a lot of money, don't you agree? In order for travel agencies to remain in business, many started to charge a processing fee (average \$10) per ticket to recoup the loss.

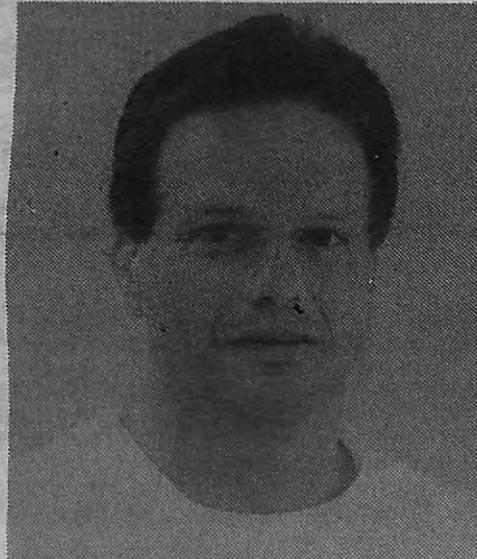
Otherwise, it would be a loss to issue airline tickets. Believe me, this fee was very difficult for travel agents to tell people about. After all, we spent the past 20 years working hard and offering a free service to all and trying to get the consumer the very best price. Have you ever called the airline and they offered you a lower fare for flying on another airline?

Well, it only gets better. Last week, Delta Airlines announced it would impose a \$1 surcharge on all airline tickets not purchased over the Internet. This means an extra dollar even if you called Delta direct or via your travel agent.

Again, this is a stab at the consumer. If the airlines have their way, they will try to eliminate the service provided to you by your travel agent. The consumer will be forced to call each and every airline directly or try to sift through pages of web site material.

Yet, this practice continues on, and nothing has been done about it. If you have any comments on this information, please write or fax me at Travel Connections LTD, 413-732-1313 or (413)-731-1449 (fax). I look forward to hearing from you.

Maybe if everyone becomes aware of these practices, something can be done.

If you are planning to buy or sell... Call Ray First!**RAYMOND
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TMJ Disorders...

When I am working on a patient, one of the conditions I look for is TMJ (temporomandibular) disorders, or problems with the jaw joint. I check for clicking of the jaw, grinding, imbalance when the mouth opens, and other problems.

The jaw is positioned at the topmost of the spine, and some problems in the neck or headaches may be directly due to the jaw joint. It is important that the jaw be functioning and balanced in order that the rest of the spine function correctly.

TMJ problems can result in a variety of painful symptoms such as headache, jaw ache, earache, neck pain, eye pain, pain with chewing, facial pain, and/or clicking, popping, or deviation of the jaw. These symptoms are most commonly caused by an imbalance in the muscles that are involved in chewing. A more serious cause can be related to abnormalities within the joints, such as degeneration.

TMJ problems can be triggered by a number of factors, some of which include stress, injury to the jaw, abnormal alignment of the jaw when you bite, or poor posture.

There are various treatment methods for the disorder. In more advanced cases, dental work or surgery is often required. My treatment of TMJ disorders includes soft-tissue mobilization, muscle work, therapy, and (most importantly) a home exercise program.

The following are some muscle groups that are often imbalanced with TMJ disorders. Here are some exercises that may help:

Trapezius (raises and rotates shoulders, brings shoulder blades together): Stand in neutral position, straighten arms, and place hands behind back. Move arms as far back as you can without discomfort. Bring shoulder blades together. Rest for 30 seconds. Repeat 6x, 6x daily.

Bring shoulders up gently and down in steady rolling motion. Relax for 30 sec. Repeat 6x, 6x daily.

Lateral pterygoids (opens jaw in forward direction, and side-to-side): Place tip of tongue as far back on roof of mouth as possible, then open and close mouth 25x, not allowing jaw to come forward. Rest 30 sec. Repeat 6x, 6x daily.

Break wooden toothpick in half, placing one pointed end between middle of upper front teeth and one between the lower front teeth. Bring teeth together, look in mirror, and open and close jaw 25x, making sure toothpicks are aligned. Do not allow jaw to move sideways. Relax for 30 sec. Repeat 6x, 6x daily.

Medial pterygoids (causes lower jaw to close, moves side-to-side): Apply pressure downward and forward to lower jaw with middle fingers while thumb rests on upper front teeth. Maintain for 10 sec. Relax for 30 sec. Repeat 6x, 6x daily.

Posture: Stand, keep eyes level, tuck chin in, and hold 2-3 sec.

Fold arms, rotate head to left, and rotate arms to right, hold 2 sec. Repeat to other side.

Rotate head 45 degrees to left, lower head down, hold 5 sec. Repeat to other side. Repeat all 5x, 2-3x daily.

If you have any questions regarding TMJ disorders, please call our office. Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

Our office will be open
on Monday, February 15th
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Support Groups, Courses, And Programs At Noble

SUPPORT GROUPS

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, February 24th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their spouses, caregivers, and other interested parties.

The topic will be "Speech Therapy and Swallowing after a Stroke."

COURSES/CLINICS/PROGRAMS:

Free Athletic Injury Clinic: Thursday, February 18th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports & Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

During this clinic (which is held on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month), athletic injuries are evaluated by a certified athletic trainer and, based upon the evaluation, remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery with Dr. Gary Russolillo: Tuesday, February 16th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Noble Hospital.

Gary E. Russolillo, MD, will present a lecture about Body Contouring Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures. Also included will be a live chemical peel demonstration.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Registration is free, and seating is limited.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

CPR Course: Wednesdays, February 17th and 24th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor at Noble Hospital.

This two-part course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant Certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call Noble Hospital's Education Department at (413) 572-5172.

Beginner Level Tai Chi Classes to begin Tuesday, February 23rd. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Series of 12 classes with Master Instructor Baiging Li will be held on the following dates: February 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, May 4th, 11th, and 18th.

The classes will be held from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and the cost for the entire series is \$108.

Advance registration and payment are required. Class size is limited.

For registration form or additional information, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Benefits Of Chiropractic For Seniors

Question: What benefits does chiropractic offer to senior citizens? Does Medicare cover chiropractic services?

Answer: Chiropractic offers several benefits to seniors. In our attempt to stay looking young by eliminating the surface signs of age, we forget an important concern — the need to improve the QUALITY of life.

Many senior patients that enter my office are taking a variety of drugs, including pain killers, blood pressure pills, anti-depressants, sedatives, etc. These medications are masking symptoms. Many are producing dangerous side effects. We are not getting at the heart of the problem.

Chiropractic is opposed to the rampant use of these medications, which dull the senses and produce detrimental side effects. The chiropractor uses spinal adjustments, nutrition, exercises, and other natural methods of restoring health.

The older person must stay alert and remain productive. Nothing is more rewarding than helping an older person regain greater range of motion and freedom of movement, and reducing the need for medications.

Medicare has paid for chiropractic for decades. Our office submits claims electronically for rapid processing. Medicare covers at least 12 and possibly as many as 36 treatments per year based on your condition.

As a growing number of people enter the senior citizen category, we must include regular chiropractic care to insure them a higher level of health.

Seniors are always welcome at the SCHLAFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE. Call us at 789-1369.

"For Your Health" is a weekly feature of The AAN and is one more reason why you turn our pages.



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789-2110



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Extreme Eating - Are Teens Compromising Their Health?

Taking things to the "extreme" isn't outlandish - it is remarkably commonplace for many of today's teens. Various activities and consumer goods are labeled "extreme," from sports to cosmetics.

Even dietary habits can be "extreme." Extreme eating describes the eating habits of many teens who seem to have lost their balance when it comes to choosing an appropriate diet. Going overboard in one or more areas of the diet, such as cutting out entire food groups, fervently following the latest fad diet or weight loss plan, or regularly consuming a single food or type of food to excess could all be characterized as extreme eating behaviors.

Nutritional Needs vs. Real Life: The "perfect" diet most likely does not exist, yet many people of all ages could benefit by improving their food choices. And, for teenagers (and children), an inadequate diet can lead to difficulty in achieving optimal growth and development and can contribute to lifelong health-related problems.

"Ideally, the teen years are a time of growth that is fueled by good nutrition. Ironically, the nutrients that teens often lack are the most important ones for this period," noted Sheah Rarback, R.D., spokesperson for the American Dietetic Association.

According to Ms. Rarback, calcium, iron, and zinc are of particular concern in the teen diet. "Teens who don't get enough calcium are putting their bones at risk later in life," she added. "In addition, boys and girls need more iron during the teen years to support increasing muscle mass and a larger blood supply, and girls need to be aware that they lose iron with their monthly period." Ms. Rarback also noted evidence indicating that many teens have low consumption of zinc, which is important for optimal development and sexual maturation during the rapid growth period of adolescence.

So, where do teens' diets fall short? As in the adult population, teens generally have little variety in their diets, eat high amounts of fat, and tend to take in fewer nutrient-dense foods. Also, fruit

and vegetable consumption is lagging among teens. According to the 1997 National Risk Behavior Survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), just over 29 percent of students surveyed had eaten the recommended five or more servings of fruits and vegetables during the day preceding the survey.

Foods for Fueling Fitness: A healthful diet that fuels fitness is necessary for all athletes, and even more so for active, growing teens. "Teens often get the message that fat is bad for them. In response, they may mistakenly limit animal and milk products and calorie-dense snacks, which are an essential part of their training diets," said Susan Kundrat, M.S., R.D., a sports nutritionist and consultant to high school athletic teams and coaches.

For some, participation on a school or community sports team serves as the impetus to shape up or lose weight. According to Ms. Kundrat, "Teaching young athletes that 'thin' doesn't always equal 'fit' is key. Ms. Kundrat points out that the pressure on teen athletes to perform can be great, and that extreme and unhealthy eating behaviors are sometimes seen by teens as a solution to better performance, especially for girls.

"Young girls who participate in power-related sports such as volleyball, rowing, basketball, or golf must learn to be comfortable with a body that is often heavier and more muscular than their peers," noted Ms. Kundrat.

Dieting to Excess: There are probably as many reasons why teens begin to diet, as there are methods to diet. Maintaining an appropriate body weight is an admirable goal for anyone. But, the problem that often crops up among teens who diet is that they sometimes use extreme measures to achieve weight loss and many times have unrealistic body images.

Fasting or skipping meals, following the latest fad diets, taking diet or "water" pills (diuretics) or exercising fanatically are not safe, nor even the most effective methods for losing body fat. What's more, teens often fail to see that achieving a more healthful and attractive physique is not measured solely by numbers on a scale. "If a teen wants to lose weight, he or she should look to the Food Guide Pyramid for guidance.

"Choosing more of the lower-fat options from the grains, fruit, vegetable, and protein groups of the Pyramid will provide the energy and nutrients teens need without extra calories," advised Ms. Rarback. "Even more essential is to get moving. [Physical activity] helps with weight, mood, and energy level, which are all important."

Next Week - When your teen says, "I don't eat that!"

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, (413) 786-2957.

Nancy Dell's column is a regular feature of The AAN...



While you are caring for
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See

Dr. Tami Nelson
Hampden County Chiropractic
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Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-4820

Program At Mercy Hospital Examines Cancer Facts, Fallacies

Oncologist Paul Hetzel, M.D., will share "Facts and Fallacies About Cancer" at Mercy Hospital's next Living With Cancer program, Monday, Feb. 22nd, 7:00 p.m. in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St.

The monthly "Living With Cancer" series is co-sponsored by Mercy Hospital and the American Cancer Society, and focuses on topics of interest to cancer patients, their families, and friends.

Advance registration is not required. For more information, call Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., (413) 748-9453.

Breast Cancer Support Group To Meet Feb. 16th At Mercy Hospital

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet February 16th, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew St.

The group is open to women who have experienced mastectomy and other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Family and friends are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

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Arts

Full Slate Of Entertainment At Red Door Theatre

Entertainment abounds at the little theatre on the hill, voted one of the best places to view live theatre.

The Red Door Theatre at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, Massachusetts, is currently accepting reservations for its Valentine's cabaret, "One Enchanted Evening," slated for February 12th, 13th, and 14th at 7:30 p.m.

For this holiday venue, the intimate theatre offers candlelit tables, a bottle of non-alcoholic champagne, a chocolate heart, and a silk rose to complement the music and comedy of Lyle Persons and Margie Secora. A collection of romantic songs from Broadway, pop, and country will be offered, along with the one-act comedy, "Valentines and Killer Chili."

All this for \$25 per couple, and patrons may bring their own basket of goodies or purchase refreshments from The Red Door snack bar. It's an evening to be shared with friends, wives, lovers, and other strangers, but reservations are a must. Call (413) 789-2026 for "One Enchanted Evening."

The following weekend features STAGE's February vacation camp production of "Runtlin's Rescue" by Lyle Persons. This adventure fantasy pits the red-capped, woodland gnomes against their arch-rivals — the trolls, who have stolen the gnomes' sacred token, the Spirit Star, thus jeopardizing the harmony and peace of the Forest Green.

The 30-member cast of young people is comprised of nine family siblings, including Diana and Katie Forbes of Agawam; Brian and Kevin Athas of Feeding Hills; Eric and Kristen Stenberg of Southwick; Dot and Sara Vasicek of Westfield; Noah and Rachael Nisenkier of Springfield; Joseph and Nora Katz, and Rachael and Sara Wiseman from Longmeadow; Tyler and Jaime Persons of Suffield, CT; and Katie and Bill Kinney, all the way from Marion, MA.

Other area students enjoying the popular drama camp are Dana Allen, Max Bertrand, Taylor Carr, Lindsay Cushing, Doug Duquette, Josh Hirst, Kim Landry, Melissa Lyons, Brittany Michel, Marc Penna, Frankie Roda, Michelle Schroth, and Zachary Shirley.

"Runtlin's Rescue" runs Friday and Saturday, February 19th and 20th, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, February 20th and 21st, at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are \$5, and reservations are strongly suggested.

For tickets and/or further information about this show and the upcoming March production of "Heart of Ice," call (413) 789-2026.



IT'S "DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE..." for everyone in the Suffield Players' upcoming production of William Shakespeare's "MACBETH." For ticket reservations, call 1-800-289-6148.

Suffield Players To Present "The Scottish Play" — "MACBETH"

It is a cursed play, whose history is marred by real life tragedies and deaths. It is referred to inside the walls of every theatre only as "the Scottish play" for to utter the name, other than while on stage, is to invite the ancient curse.

It is William Shakespeare's tale of death and madness, "MACBETH." But how did this happen? How did fact and fiction come so close to mirror each other? Who so cursed this enduring classic of theatre?

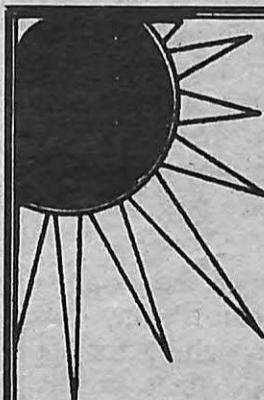
It was Shakespeare himself! So wrapt in the spell of creating a stunning tale of blood, madness, and magic, he mixed fact and fancy, making reference to actual Scottish lore of the three witches who used their craft against King Duffin 960 AD, and then went even further.

He used actual blackmagic incantations for the ingredients of three witches' brew! And actors

and audiences alike have paid the unholy toll for this ever since. In its 300-plus year history, productions have been plagued with injuries, illnesses, and even onstage deaths. Add to this devastating fires, audience riots, and technical calamities of all manner, and there you have it: "MACBETH," the Scottish play, or in some circles, "that play," "the unmentionable."

To see this strange and beautiful drama of magic, murder, and madness, join the Suffield Players on February 25th, 26th, 27th, March 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th, 19th and 20th at historic Mapleton Hall.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with curtain promptly at 8:00 p.m. Call toll free, 1-800-289-6148 for tickets: the first Thursday is only \$8 and all other nights, \$12, with discounts for seniors and students.



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A Weekly Look At Your Horoscope

by Dale Platenik

Aquarius (January 20th to February 18th): There is a saying, Aquarius, "He who sits in jellyroll gets (bottom) in jam." You want more friends and you want to increase your sphere of influence this week. You act unconventional, even for you. Think everything through before you act. Social consciousness is good when done for everyone.

Pisces (February 19th to March 20th): As The Doors said, "C'mon baby, light my fire." This week, you have universal compassion. You need seclusion - you are very psychic and very sensitive. This is a good time to search for higher values.

Aries (March 21st to April 19th): Remember Caesar and the Ides of March, Aries? Do what you need to do now - with thought. Rather than projecting total control on others, just creatively visualize what you want on others. You can handle life courageously. Proceed with ambition.

Taurus (April 20th to May 20th): Easy come, easy go should not be your motto this week, Taurus. You can stop before you begin. Don't let inertia set in. If you put materialism first, sensuality and sensitivity will suffer.

Gemini (May 21st to June 20th): Remember when the Tortoise beat the Hare? This week, the Rabbit takes the Turtle, 6 to 2. Fulfill your ambitions by letting your mental pursuits nurture personal growth. Use your natural talents with words to bring change through versatility, adaptability, and speed.

Cancer (June 21st to July 22nd): This week, Cancer, you will be the harbinger of insights. Good or bad depends on you. But, remember, everyone loves great stuff. There are external forces around trying to limit you. You have no self-discipline. Focus your personal philosophy through your experiences and then share the good news.

Leo (July 23rd to August 22nd): All life is a stage and a flare for the dramatic is o.k. It is your time to teach what you have learned this week to others, Leo. Taking an active part for the betterment of others will make your life better.

Virgo (August 23rd to September 22nd): The rest of your life begins with one step and, this week, Virgo, you can prove it. Your meticulous attention to detail wins. Don't get carried away with being critical of those around you, however. Perfection does not exist. Stop analyzing and just enjoy.

Libra (September 23rd to October 22nd): The heat is on, the clock is ticking, you have seconds to place your bet, and you cannot decide what to do. Hone your sense of timing this week, Libra. Be objective and cooperative in your dealings with others this week. If you share what you know, you will get a wealth of information and understanding in return. This could be your week for equilibrium.

Scorpio (October 23rd to November 21st): Remember Aesop's Fable about a bird in one hand being better than two in the bush? This will be a demanding, intense week. For once, you need to manipulate others to achieve your goals. Remember to give something back!

Sagittarius (November 22nd to December 21st): All things old are new again this week, Sagittarius. That saying is for you. Everything will come to an end, but that is to make way for renewal. New doors are going to open. Take everything you know and throw away all the things that are meaningless. Just use the tried and true. Your life will become a "keeper" just as it is.

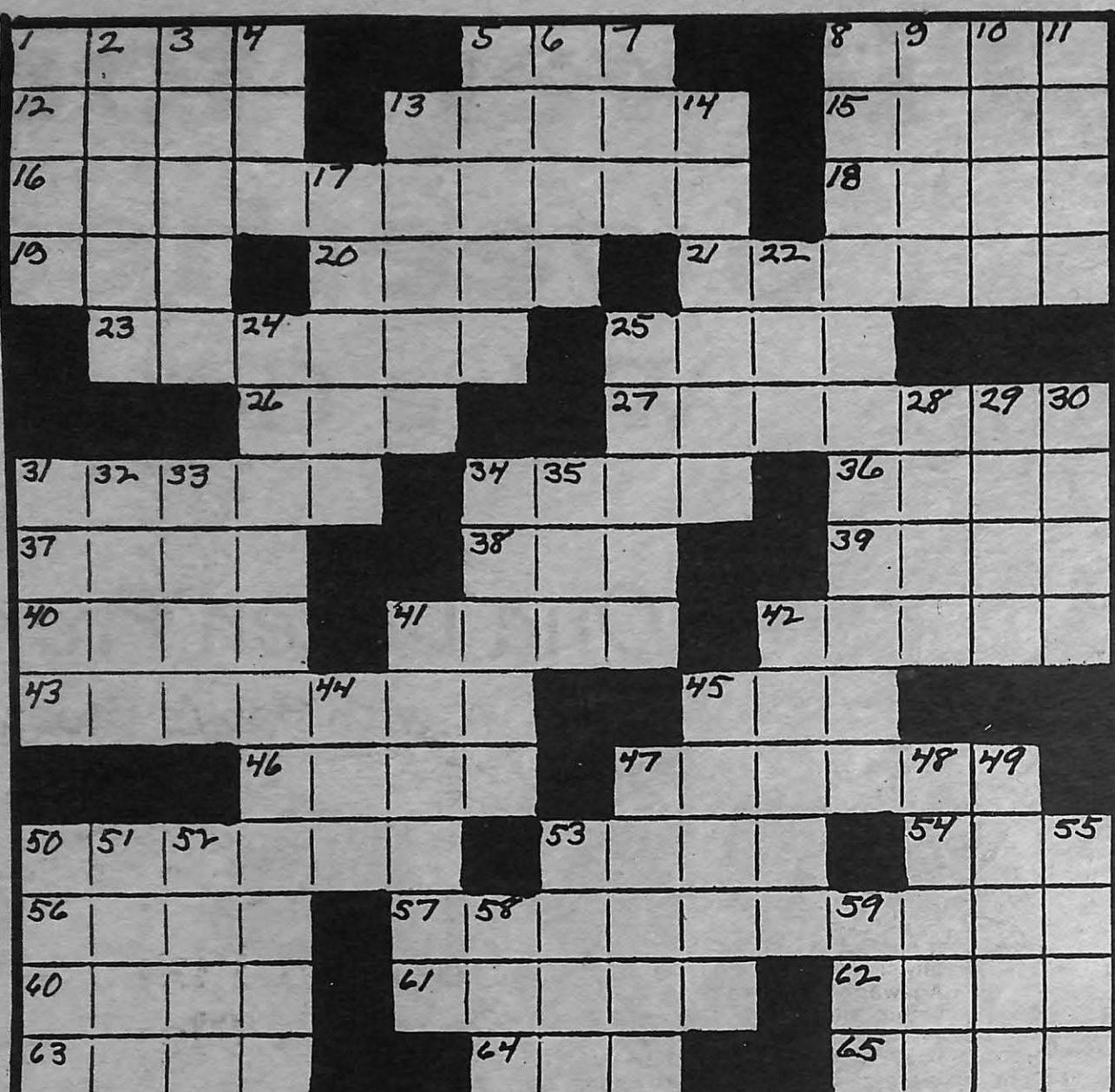
Capricorn (December 22nd to January 19th): You know the saying, "Think globally, act locally"? Use it. You are disorganized this week. Your plans for success need to be limited into a tangible goal. Your social position will be enhanced by limiting your desire for amassing influence and wealth. Use your current position as a springboard.

(Editor's note: Dale Platenik of Holyoke has been an astrologer for 19 years, has taught it and related subjects, and works as a counselor in the field. She can be reached at 539-5934.)

* * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



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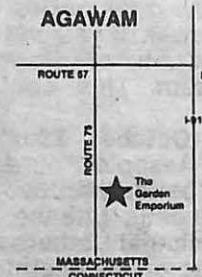
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Education

Brian R. Landry To Join D.C. Govt. Conference

Brian R. Landry, a student at Cathedral High School, will travel to our nation's capital as a participant in the Presidential Classroom Scholars Program, America's premier civic education program. The program will take place February 13-20, 1999.

Joining hundreds of high school students from across the country and abroad, Brian will take part in seminars presented by leaders representing each branch of government, the military, media, and business. Students are also scheduled for a private tour of the White House, appointments with their Senators' and Representatives' offices, and a visit to a foreign embassy.

Small-group workshops will focus on issues such as media, immigration, and juvenile justice. Discussion and debate will be balanced with visits to Washington's monuments and Smithsonian museums, an evening of political satire with The Capital Steps, and a commencement celebration.

Since 1969, Presidential Classroom has provided more than 78,000 of America's finest students with unprecedented access to Washington's halls of power and the people shaping public policy. Alumni have gone on to be leaders in their own communities and many, like U.S. Representative Chet Edwards (TX) and U.S. Senator Robert Torricelli (NJ), have returned to Washington as public servants.

Presidential Classroom also offers the Business, Labor and Public Policy Program, the Science, Technology and Public Policy Program and, for international students, the Future World Leaders Summit.

To participate, students must be juniors or seniors in high school, hold a "B" average or higher OR rank in the top 25 percent of their class, and show commitment to community or school involvement through participation in co-curricular activities.

For more information about Presidential Classroom, call toll-free 1-800-441-6533 or visit our web site at <http://www.presidenticlassroom.org>.

AHS's Second-Term Report Cards Have Been Distributed

Joseph Zabielski, Principal of Agawam High School, has announced that the school's second-term report cards were issued on Friday, February 5, 1999.

All the school-related news with us, every week — AAN!!!

Richard W. Gallerani, OD
Julianne Rapalus Gallerani, OD

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789-2106

Quill & Scroll's Class Of 1999 Inductees...



PICTURED ABOVE ARE THE Agawam High School class of 1999 members of the O'Brien/Pulaski chapter of the Quill & Scroll Society, an international honor society for high school journalists. Membership is open to seniors who are in the top third of their class and are on the staff of the Mirror, Sachem, and/or The Uniqorn. On hand to congratulate this year's inductees are Quill & Scroll advisors David Pulaski (far left) and Lawrence O'Brien (far right). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

AHS To Host Prog. On Advanced Placement And Honors Courses

On Monday, February 22nd, information will be presented by the Academic Coordinators and teachers of Agawam High School on Advanced Placement and other honors courses at Agawam High School. The presentation will be held in the high school cafeteria from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the presentation is to help 10th-, 11th-, and 12th-grade students and their parents or guardians to make more informed decisions prior to the selection of Advanced Placement or other honors courses.

Area Students Attain Honor Roll At Spfld. Christian School

The following area students were recently named to the second-term honor roll at the Springfield Christian School.

From Agawam:

Michael Schnepf (grade nine - high honors).

From Feeding Hills:

Lauren Heiden (grade seven - high honors).

Located at 627 State Street in downtown Springfield, the Springfield Christian School has an enrollment of children in grades kindergarten through 12, with 70 students in grades seven through 12.

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'Strategies For Funding Children's Education' At Agawam Library

An educational seminar titled "Strategies for Funding Your Children's Education" will take place on Tuesday, February 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

This seminar will be presented by Sue Alvanos, Personal Financial Advisor, Charlie Alvanos, CFP, Senior Financial Advisor, and American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. The guest speaker will be Steve Duval, CFP, District Manager.

This fast-paced, 60-minute seminar will include critical information about:

- * What financial aid options are available.
- * Creative college funding strategies.
- * The most effective investment strategies for increasing your savings and your eligibility for financial aid.
- * How to estimate the cost of sending your children to the college of their choice.
- * And much more...

You'll receive a complimentary workbook with worksheets and information to help you understand your current financial situation, what it will take to reach your educational goal, and the various funding options available.

To make reservations, call Sue Alvanos at 534-3883, ext. 225. Seating is limited, so please respond promptly!

March 2nd Mtg. To Discuss NYC Trip

The final planning meeting for students who are going on the New York/Washington DC/Philadelphia trip during school vacation is planned for Tuesday, March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Agawam Middle School cafeteria.

All the travelers and their parents should attend this meeting. Final arrangements and decisions need to be made in regards to rooming, meal choices, hat color, etc.

Information on what to expect and what you should pack will also be discussed.

Candy money and final payments are due this month. If you have any questions regarding amounts owed, just give me a call at 786-9896 in the evening. See you on March 2nd!

Emily Dreyer To Be An Intern With U.S. Olympic Committee

Emily Dreyer, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Dreyer of 228 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, was one of 26 students nationally to be selected for an internship with the United States Olympic Committee for the spring semester.

Emily accepted a position in the public and media relations department at the ARCO Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California.

Emily graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in Sport Management from Springfield College, and began her internship at the ARCO Olympic Training Center on January 7th. She will remain at the ARCO/OTC until the end of May.

Last summer, Emily worked as the Ticket Coordinator for the Canon Greater Hartford Open, a PGA Tour event in the Hartford, Connecticut area. Emily has also interned with the American Hockey League's Springfield Falcons and Major League baseball's winter meetings in 1997.

The United States Olympic Committee offers 25-30 internships each semester to college students from around the country. The internships vary according to the student's concentration of study and interest, and are located in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Lake Placid, New York, Chula Vista, California, and Washington, D.C.

Interns for the United States Olympic Committee are provided with room and board and a bi-weekly stipend. All interns are given the opportunity of exposure to the Olympic Movement and a quality work experience.



EMILY DREYER

The ARCO Olympic Training Center is located on 150 acres in the San Diego County. The ARCO/OTC was the first USOC training facility to be master-planned from the ground up and is dedicated to the development of America's future athletes.

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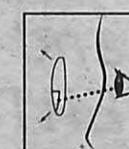
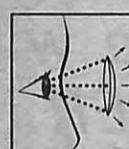
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High School Accreditation Gets Mixed Reviews From Town & School Officials

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Released to the press last week, the Agawam High School accreditation report of a 12-member visiting committee of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges concludes, "the pride that the members of this high school community have in their school and the pride they display in their assisting of the young people of the school is justified. The visiting committee is confident that a continuation of current levels of effort will allow the school to maintain its solid traditions."

AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski is preparing an action plan incorporating the 87 recommendations contained in the report that will assess what needs to be done, who will do the work, and how much it will cost the School Department to implement the changes within the next three years, according to Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruoso. The action plan is expected to be presented to the School Committee in March.

After undergoing his first accreditation review as the school's principal, Zabielski said he was pleased that the process sets forth a plan in writing for the school to follow in fostering a high level of professionalism and collegiality while maintaining the school's mission and making long-range plans for continued improvements.

"The accreditation report is like a constitution that binds us," Zabielski said. "It's got some specifics for us to follow."

The 60-page report has been submitted to the Association's Commission on Public Secondary Schools which will decide next month whether to renew the High School's accreditation for another 10 years. The report is meant to assess how well a school meets the following standards for accreditation: Statement of Purpose; Curriculum and Instruction; Student Support Services; Library, Technology, and Media Services; Administration, Faculty, and Support Staff; School Facilities; Community Support and Involvement; Financial Support; School Climate; and Assessment of Student Learning and School Performance.

Zabielski said the top priorities identified in the report are the need for immediate attention to all dimensions of the Library Media Center; a department coordinator for the Special Needs Department, and more inclusion of Special Ed students in regular education classes; improved communication and planning on maintenance issues with the town Building Department; a long-range technology plan for the school, and an improved assessment program for making curriculum decisions.

Citing the area of assessment, Zabielski said the school has already instituted several of the visiting committee's recommendations, including

the development of departmentalized testing in math and world history, as well as using the MCAS and SAT results to measure the quality of the school's educational program and target specific areas for improvement.

The Report - A "Mixed Bag"...

Despite the overall positive tone and tenor of the accreditation report on Agawam High School, town and school officials found the review to be a mixed bag of valid recommendations for making improvements, misperceptions of the progress made in the last three years, and an unyielding model of how a high school should be administered.

Ameruoso said the accreditation report is not intended as a pat on the back for a school; rather, it is intended to make recommendations for improvements.

"The report was positive where it needed to be positive and it found areas for improvement," Ameruoso said.

Although Ameruoso and Associate Superintendent Mary Czajkowski felt the visiting committee may have relied more on their perceptions than on an analysis of the facts in making some of their recommendations, both agreed that the recommendations on improving the library were "right on the money" and would be taken care of immediately. The visiting committee made its site inspection in October.

Ms. Czajkowski disagreed with some of the report's findings relating to curriculum writing and assessment, professional development, and pupil support services. All areas come under the umbrella of her position as associate superintendent for educational affairs.

"Curriculum writing has been ongoing during the school year and \$10,000 has been earmarked for curriculum writing during the summer," Ms. Czajkowski said. "We just submitted our district plan for professional development to the state, which was based on a survey of teachers' needs and the plan was approved. And we are using the MCAS results to help develop a comprehensive plan to evaluate our curriculum."

In the area of pupil support services, Ms. Czajkowski said some of the recommendations of the report are already being addressed. She said Zabielski has requested that Special Education teachers attend departmental meetings when curriculum and MCAS testing is being discussed, and a schedule has been set for school adjustment counselors in grades K-12 and guidance counselors for grades 5-12 to meet regularly with the central office administration.

Johnson Not Impressed With Process...
School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christo-

pher C. Johnson said he was not impressed with the accreditation process, nor with their recommendations regarding the maintenance of the school building.

"They couldn't get by the concept that by our charter, the maintenance of the schools is left to the town side of the budget and is not included in the school budget. Our framers understood that the first thing departments cut during years of fiscal crunch is the maintenance of the school buildings, and that is why the framers took that responsibility away from the School Department.

"Now, regardless of what the School Department spends, the town must pay for the upkeep of the building. But, the visiting committee just wanted the principal to be in charge," Johnson said.

Johnson said the committee was not judging the effectiveness of the school, but the way the school fit their model for a high school.

"Some of what we do doesn't fit their boxes, but I don't agree that their model is the best," Johnson said.

At issue was the committee's request for a written plan for resolving conflicts between the principal and the Maintenance Department, and a written plan for maintaining the school building and a schedule for room painting, Johnson said.

Johnson said the current district-wide practice of asking the school administrators to assess the maintenance needs of the schools on a yearly basis and submit their requests to the Building Department every year makes more sense than writing a plan that would include repairs or repainting that may not be needed.

"(Building Maintenance Director) Tony Albro is an electrician by trade. He's already doing a tremendous job and I'd rather have him out in the buildings doing hands-on work than sitting at a desk making plans that are not going to work," Johnson said. "And I prefer to resolve conflicts informally rather than create a hard-and-fast procedure that wouldn't be used and won't fit every situation."

The accreditation process includes the review of a two-year self-study of the High School undertaken by administrators, teachers, students, and parents in addition to the three-day on-site visit by a 12-member committee.

As part of the ongoing accreditation process, the high school principal must submit two progress reports to the association detailing the school's efforts at addressing the recommendations of the accreditation report. The first report is due in two years; the second report is due in five years.

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A Journalism I Project...

"Groovy Times" Provide A New Look At The 70's

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The front-page headlines capture the major stories of a decade: Nixon resigned; America pulled out of Vietnam; the Supreme Court ruled on the Karen Ann Quinlan case; the Equal Rights Amendment was approved by the U.S. Senate; and Apollo 13 shocked the nation, turning a failed mission to the Moon into a successful rescue of the three-man crew.

An editorial asked when will American soldiers come home from Vietnam; Billie Jean King is featured on the sports pages; Bob Dylan and Joan Baez performed to a standing-room-only audience at the Springfield Civic Center; "Star Wars," "Animal House," and "Halloween" ruled at the box office; and "Saturday Night Live" featured The Blues Brothers.

No, this student newspaper hasn't been sealed in a time capsule for more than 20 years; this is not a decades-old edition of *The Mirror*, even though some of the story ideas, photos, and advertisements were culled from the back issues.

The Groovy Times is a new look at the 1970's, compiled by the Journalism I students of *Mirror* advisor Lawrence O'Brien. The half-year course ended in January with the publication of the paper and the creation of "The Brownie Billboard," a videotaped newscast featuring news, weather, sports, and a cooking segment.

Groovy Times editor-in-chief Aimee Piccin and her staff credited their advisor for the paper's success. "Mr. O'Brien was great," Aimee said. "Without him, we wouldn't have been able to do it. He taught us all how to be journalists and we would have been lost without his help."

Elected editor-in-chief by the class, Aimee said working together to meet the deadlines and get their group projects completed on time quickly brought the class together as friends. "There was a lot of group work and making decisions together," Aimee said. "Everyone trusted the others to get their work done."

Feature editor Danielle Bachini enjoyed overseeing the fun aspects of a decade in stories on pop culture, fashion, and fads (including streaking). "I read all the feature articles and gave them my input," Danielle said. "I liked being the feature editor because it was about fun things."

Jenna Shea's duties took a more serious turn. Writing an editorial on the Vietnam War required Jenna to research the topic, which had not been



Proudly holding up copies of "The Groovy Times" (from left to right): Jenna Shea, Alyson Nowell, Nick Vooys, Aimee Piccin, teacher Lawrence O'Brien, Danielle Bachini, and Erin Jackson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

covered in social studies classes she had taken thus far.

"I learned how America got involved and how Americans weren't for the war. In my editorial, I was writing from the perspective that the war was still going on. I wrote that we should bring the men home and support them in every way we could," Jenna said.

Sports writer Nick Vooys surveyed the sports stories of the 70's to focus on the highlights, including four Super Bowl games and great players of the decade. Alyson Nowell combed through back issues of the High School newspaper and the yearbook to put together a piece on interesting things about the school that most students were not aware of.

News writer Erin Jackson delved into the issues surrounding the Equal Rights Amendment for her front-page story. "I had known there was a movement for women's rights, but I learned a lot more about it," Erin said.

According to O'Brien, learning more about other subject areas is one of the basic tenets underlying project-based learning, like the student newspaper.

At the beginning of the course, O'Brien gave the students a list of topics and allowed the class to choose the theme, as well as the name, for their project.

"Project-based learning is the best way for students to learn as they plan and produce something tangible. Working on a newspaper, they learned sports, news, editorial, and feature writing for a specific project and its cross curriculum, so they learned more about history."

With funds supplied by the High School Improvement Council, enough copies of *The Groovy Times* were printed for distribution to all the students at the school. Also, copies are on file at the Agawam Public Library and the Junior High School Library, O'Brien said.

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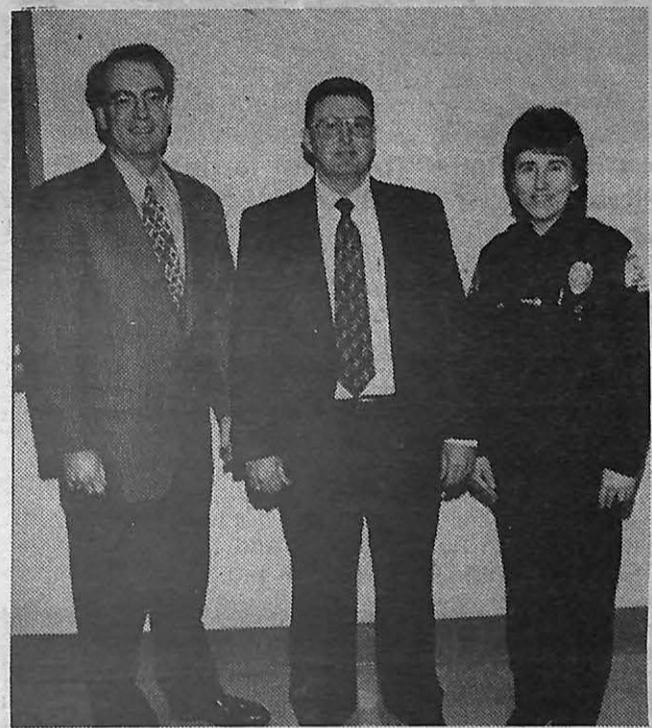
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D.A.R.E. GRADUATES Matthew Niles, Noah Turner, and Megan Sellers with Officer Richard Niles and Officer James Donovan.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON with Acting Police Chief William Sliech and D.A.R.E. Officer Karen L. Langevin at the February 5th D.A.R.E. graduation. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JASON A. BIAGETTI

Jason A. Biagetti Attains Dean's List Standing At WNEC

Jason A. Biagetti, son of Debra & Allan Collins of Feeding Hills, and Dennis Biagetti of Southwick, was named to the Western New England College Dean's List for the 1998 fall semester with a 3.58 grade point average.

He is a senior majoring in Management.

A 1995 graduate of Agawam High School, Jason is a grandson of Ann & Felix Rachele of Agawam, and Mary Biagetti, also of Agawam.



SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS Frank Ameruoso (far left) at the February 5th D.A.R.E. graduation with (from left to right) Officer James Donovan, Officer Dave Gallerani, and Agawam Middle School Principal Ralph Zavarella. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Latest D.A.R.E. Graduation Takes Place At Agawam Middle School Auditorium

On Friday, February 5th, this semester's D.A.R.E. graduation was held at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium.

Special guests in attendance included Mike Walsh from Senator Linda Melconian's Office, Mayor Christopher Johnson, Dr. Frank Ameruoso (Superintendent of Schools), Acting Police Chief William Sliech, Sgt. Steven Draghetti, Sgt. Donald Gallerani, Officer Richard Niles, and Officer James Donovan, as well as several Peer Leaders from Agawam High School.

The winners of the D.A.R.E. Essay Contest were Uche Ejesi from Room 207, and B.J. Forbes from Room 202. They each won a D.A.R.E. medallion, as well as had their essays read aloud to those who were in attendance.

Each graduate received a diploma, a D.A.R.E. t-shirt, and a D.A.R.E. button.

D.A.R.E. Officer Karen L. Langevin of the Agawam Police Department would like to offer her congratulations to the graduates on a job well done!

— Have a Happy Valentine's Day... —

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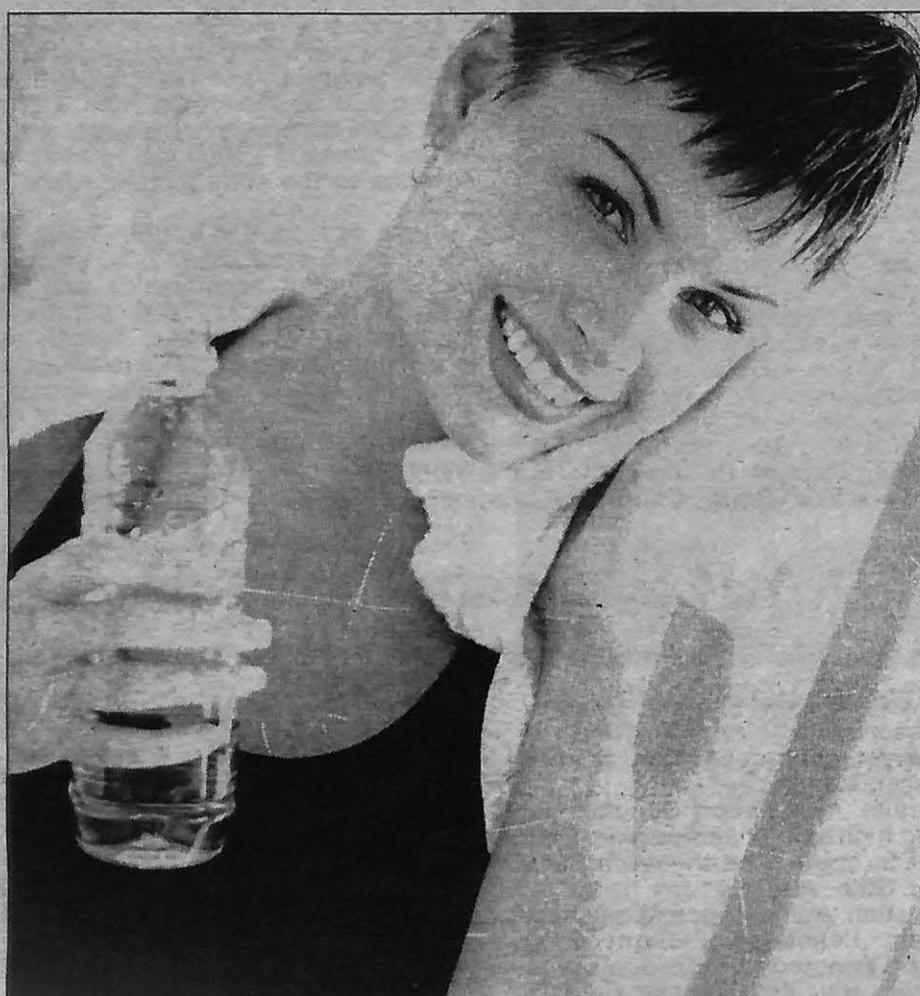
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From AHS Guidance Department...

Staying On The Page Or Reading The Next Chapter

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School Guidance Counselor

I know you have heard of the book that talks about men being from Mars and women being from Venus. Well, here in my office, I talk about girls staying on the same page and boys going on to read the next chapter. Let me explain.

Sally came in my office. She was really upset. One of her friends had been saying things about her that Sally knew were not true. Sally was crying. She couldn't understand why her friend would do such a thing. She had confronted her friend, they had discussed it, but it still hurt.

As a matter of fact, Sally found it difficult to go into the cafeteria because her friend had the same lunch. She even found it hard to walk down the hallway since she thought everyone was talking about her behind her back. I asked when the initial transgression had occurred and was not surprised to learn that it had all happened about a week ago.

Each day, Sally was dwelling on the situation; each day, it seemed to become a larger problem in her mind and, frankly, she was getting more and more agitated over it. Yes, Sally was deciding to stay on the same page. She had been given a book, the happening, to read, but had gotten stuck in the middle of it.

Instead of going on to the next chapter, she chose to stay where she was or even return to the beginning of the chapter, when the problem first occurred, and relive it again and again. Nothing was being resolved.

Now, let's look at Justin. He had gotten in an argument with one of his friends. They had a little screaming match, "discussed" the issues, looked at them for a bit, and moved along.

Actually, a few days later, I saw them in the hallway walking together, laughing, and obviously getting along just fine. What's the difference between Sally and Justin? Was one happening that much less severe? Wrong!

I choose to think that Justin had been given a book, the happening. He had read the chapter, lived it, and now it was clearly time to move on and see what else existed in the book. If he kept choosing to look at the same chapter, he would never be able to advance.

To Justin, that would have been tedious and non-productive, so he chose to turn the page and get on with the process of living.

You really would think that one would tire of replaying the same scene over and over, but for whatever reason, gals do just that. Of course, sometimes the scene does get more embellished as time goes on; I suppose that's because it needs to undergo some changes for variety!

Once I point out this "one chapter phenomenon" to the upset gal, she usually is able to see my point, decide to truly grapple with the problem at hand, and then give it up and move along.

Stagnation is destructive; moving along is constructive. Don't dirty the pages by staying on one chapter too long; instead, turn the pages so you will be able to see clean, new ones.

Do turn the pages so you will greet new experiences and embrace life fully with its constant new episodes, learning from one chapter and moving forward to the next.

WNEC's Law School Slates Open House

Western New England College School of Law will be hosting prospective students at an Open House from 1:00-4:15 p.m., Saturday, February 27th.

The event is free, but reservations must be made by calling (800) 782-6665 or (413) 782-1406.

The Open House will feature tours of the S. Prestley Blake Law Center, a mock law class conducted by a School of Law faculty member; a discussion about how to apply to and pay for law school; a panel on law school curricula for full-time and part-time program options; a presentation about careers in law; and a reception where applicants can speak informally with professors, students, and admissions professionals.

Western New England College, founded in 1919, is a private, nonsectarian, coeducational institution located on an attractive 185-acre suburban campus in Springfield. The college serves 4,600 students on its Springfield main campus, at over 20 sites throughout the Commonwealth, and at its downtown Springfield campus.

Undergraduate and graduate programs are offered through the College's Schools of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Law.

AHS Guidance News

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!

Amanda Peters: Westfield State College.
Leila Mounemeh: Northeastern University, Newbury College.

Shelley Rose: University of Southern Maine.
Robert Santaniello: University of Massachusetts.

Franca Bonavita: Assumption College.
Gwen Gonyea: Westfield State College, American International College, Bay Path College.

Michelle Beaudette: University of Rhode Island.
Leanne Ryan: Assumption College, Bryant College, Western New England College, Westfield State College.

Christopher Rousseau: Siena College, Quinnipiac College, University of Hartford, University of Rhode Island, University of Richmond.

Sarah Nacewicz: University of Maine, University of New England.

Laura Tenerowicz: Westfield State College, Elms College.

Nicole Macey: Bryant College.

Theresa Wesley: Johnson and Wales University.

Heather Hughes: Syracuse University.

Jason Grimaldi: University of Massachusetts.

Emily Tamponi: Sacred Heart University.

Evan Konopka: Westfield State College.

Jessica Montagna: Wheelock College.

Andrea Cizek: Westfield State College, Fitchburg State College.

Dominik Koleczek: American International College.

Katie Theroux: Westfield State College, Salve Regina University.

Justin Kratovil: University of New England, Utica College.

Holly Moren: Western New England College, University of Massachusetts.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Community Theater Association Scholarship: Open to graduating high school seniors who plan to pursue a major in one of the theatrical arts. Deadline: March 1, 1999.

National Association of Insurance Women of Greater Springfield Scholarship: Eight \$500 scholarships will be awarded to individuals who are continuing their education in any field of study. Deadline: April 1, 1999.

Springfield Garden Club Scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students who are, or who plan to be, in an environmental studies program. These scholarships are available to students who major in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, and related subjects. Applicants should have at least a B average and be residents of Hampden County. Deadline: April 15, 1999.

SENIORS: Remember the Scholarship Fair will be held Tuesday, March 9th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Representatives from local organizations will be present to distribute local scholarship applications. More information will be provided at a later date.

Christina Joyce Tetraeault Wins Vocational Award

Christina Joyce Tetraeault of 32 Red Fox Drive, Feeding Hills, a senior studying Landscaping Horticulture at Vocational and Technical Education Center in Chicopee, has been named a local winner in the Tools for Tomorrow All-American Vocational Student Awards program.

As a local winner, she will receive a personalized award and a \$100 gift certificate from Coast to Coast, ServiStar, and True Value retailers.

Tetraeault was selected from a group of more than 3,000 from across the country to be honored as one of nearly 2,000 local winners who will now advance to the state judging round of the competition.

Since its inception in 1992, Tools for Tomorrow has honored more than 12,000 students with over \$1.5 million in scholarships and awards. This year, more than \$270,000 will be awarded to outstanding vocational-technical students on local, state, and national levels. The All-American Vocational Student Awards recognize high school students who achieve standards of excellence in vocational and academic skills, and who exhibit leadership in their communities.

A nationally acclaimed program supporting vocational-technical education, the All-American Vocational Student Awards is only one part of Tools for Tomorrow. In addition to sponsoring winners in the awards competition, participating Coast to Coast, ServiStar, and True Value retailers provide discounts and donate materials to vocational students, offer internship opportunities, and spearhead community service programs.

Following the local judging round, one All-American Vocational Student Award winner will be chosen in every state, territory, and the District of Columbia. Each state winner will receive a \$1,000 Career Advancement Award and move on to the national judging round.

This award can be used for post-secondary training and education or toward the purchase of equipment and/or tools from a Coast to Coast, ServiStar, or True Value retailer. State winners will be announced in March.

In early March, the Tools for Tomorrow Advisory Board, composed of executives from national vocational and leadership organizations, corporations, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, will meet in Washington, D.C., to select 10 national winners.

The national winners will receive a \$2,000 Career Advancement Award and an all-expense-paid trip in late April to Atlanta, Georgia, where they will be honored at Coast to Coast, ServiStar, and True Value's Spring Convention.

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Sports

League Title In Sight... Brownie Hoop Guns Down Falcons, 52-39

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Good teams make adjustments. Great ones make them work. On Tuesday evening, before a packed, standing room only house at Kibbe Gym, the Agawam High girls' basketball team did just that, beating Minnechaug Regional, 52-39, for the second time this season.

The Brownies now have a firm grasp on the outright Valley Wheel title (this team has tied for it the past two years) and undoubtedly secured the top seed for the Division I Tournament over the two-time Western Mass. and state champion.

The first, and perhaps most important, adjustment for Agawam was on defense. They abandoned their trademark man-to-man, in-your-face and shirt defense for a ferocious match-up zone.

"Yeah, we had to take care of their big girls (Melissa Kowalski, Maureen Leahy). They ended up scoring, but not what they should. So, it worked out well for us," Barbara Maloni, who scored 28 points (5-10 fgs including a three, 17-20 fgs) noted. The two Falcon trees combined for 25. The 6'4" Leahy had 15, and the 5'10" Kowalski had 10, well below their combined 36 points a game average.

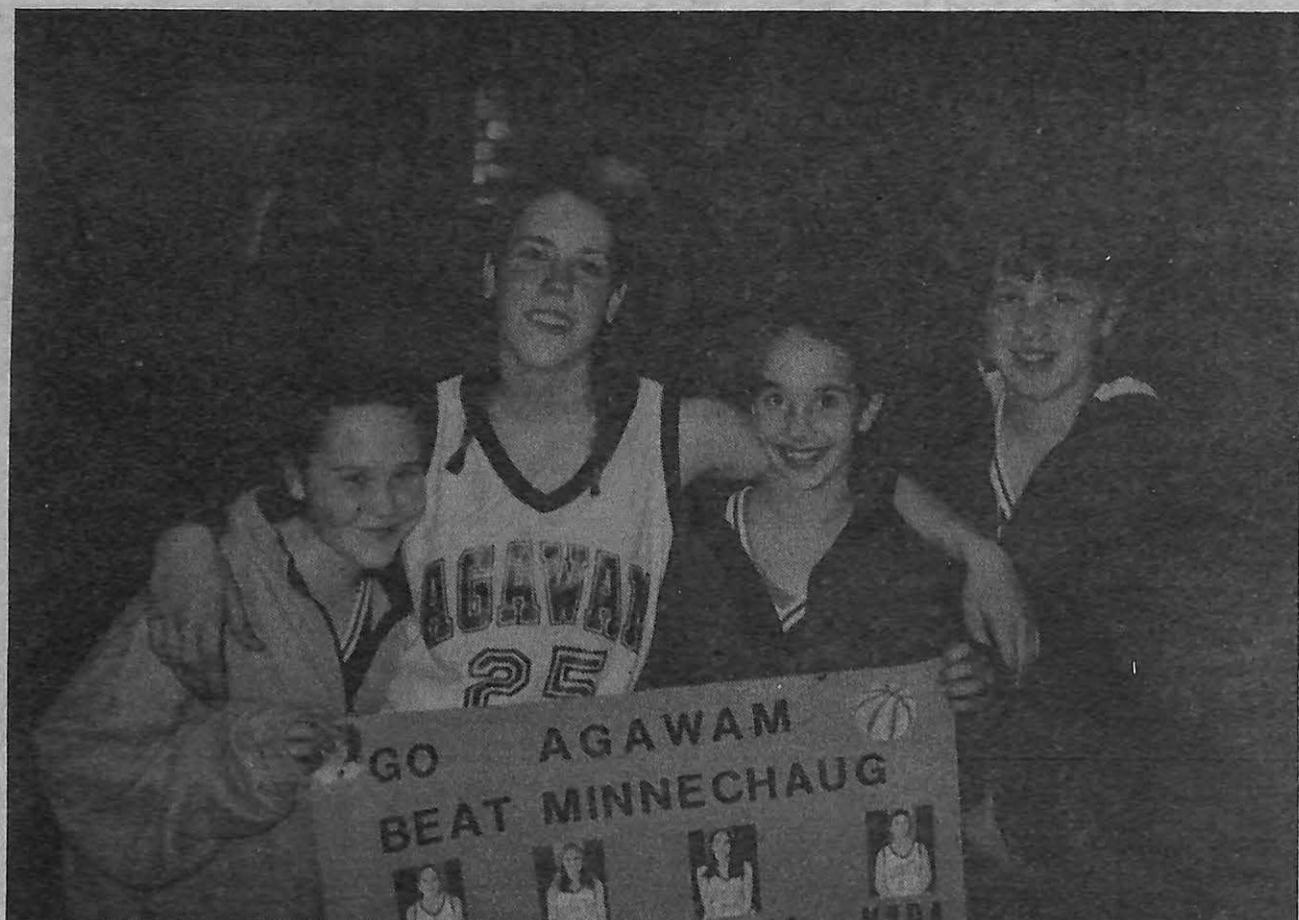
Maloni In Foul Trouble

The second adjustment came in the second half when Maloni, who seldom gets into foul trouble, had to sit for seven minutes with four fouls. The Brownies never missed a beat. When she left for the pine with 12 minutes to go, they were up by nine. When she returned with four minutes left, they were still on top by the same number.

Agawam shocked the two-time defending state champions early. With the rampaging zone cutting down all angles for the big kids underneath, Agawam jumped out to a 15-1 lead. The Falcons, after going 0-11 from the field, finally got their first field goal, a three from Kowalski with 6:52 left in the half. At that time, the Brownies had gone 6-12.

The Falcons are too good a team to fold their tents when facing a big deficit. Maloni agreed.

"You have to expect something to happen (from them) throughout the game. They picked it up and came back. You can't take Minnechaug for granted."



AGAWAM HIGH ALL-WESTERN MASS. girls' basketball player Barbara Maloni, who recently entered the elite 1,500 point club, is hugged by Agawam Athletic Association 5th/6th grade girls' players following Agawam's 52-39 win over Minnechaug Regional on Tuesday night. The younger girls in the photo are Jamie Cullen, Elise Davilli, and Susan Jenney. Photo by Dave Rollins.

From the 6:52 to 3:14 mark, the visitors outscored Agawam, 8-1, and were right back in it, 16-9.

Bertone-Gross & Gendron Stretch The Lead

They started to double Maloni whenever she had a notion to drive for the bunny. So, center Pia Bertone-Gross (8 points), free off the double team, hit two quick hoops and stretched the lead to 20-11 with 1:28 to go. Sophomore point guard Jill Gendron (10 points), who improves with every game, drained a deuce with 35 seconds left, making it 22-11, Brownies. The half ended, 22-14, Agawam.

The second half saw Agawam back in its zone while the Falcons continued with their man-to-man. Minnechaug, laboring down low for most of the game to that point, finally began to get the

ball to their front court. Leahy (especially) benefited from this, canning 11 of her 15 points in the second half.

Maloni, dropping off to double on the 6'4" center, got her next foul of the game at the 12:50 mark.

Minnechaug, with Maloni out and Leahy beginning to dominate the paint, rode this good fortune, closing to 32-28 with 8:12 left. Bertone-Gross, who'd been banging heads with Leahy all game long down low, came out to handle the ball on several occasions. The six-foot senior was playing well both in and out of the paint (8

SEE GIRLS' HOOP - Page 38...

Agawam Wrestling Vs Ludlow...

Brownie Matmen Put Up A Valiant Fight Against Division Champ Ludlow

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The wrestling match most of the Brownie faithful had been looking forward to against Ludlow High didn't turn out according to plan. The unbeaten Lions (in Western Mass.) came into Kibbe Gym last Wednesday evening and before a packed house, beat the Brownies, 39-32, to win the A Division title for the third straight year. (AHS is the defending Western Mass. champ.)

It might have been Brownie Coach Phil Tomkiel's final home dual meet. But he's looking forward to the Western Mass. Championships coming up this weekend at Springfield's Central High School. This, of course, is his final season as Agawam's wrestling coach, hanging it up after 25 seasons. His teams have been the Western Mass. champs 11 out of the last 12 years. He feels they have every chance of adding to that list on the weekend.

Once again, Agawam (10-3, 8-1) had some problems in the upper weight divisions against Ludlow, much as they'd experienced the previous week in their 32-24 win over West Springfield. But Ludlow is a tall cut above the Terriers. Mistakes could not be permitted in this one.

Locals Start Out Strong

As usual, Agawam started out strong. Eric Hogan, a 103-pound standout, locked up against the Lions' Jim Cerbek. Hogan went up 2-0 with an early takedown. He got two more on a partial pin and led after one period, 4-0. The Brownie sophomore did a lot of riding in the second two minutes.

With 50 seconds left, he had the advantage, but couldn't flip the Lion for a pinfall opportunity. They went into the third period with Hogan still up, 4-0. Hogan went for another pin with a cradle, but couldn't convert. Hogan was leading, 8-0, on another takedown.

Finally, with six seconds left, all his efforts paid off with a pin and the win.

All-Western Mass. champion Dave Moore took the mat in the 112's. The junior was in total control for the entire time he was out there and got his pin with 20 seconds left in the first.

Rob Creanza had a tough one in the 119's against Art Privedenyuk (whose brother, Dimitri, would figure big later on). The Lion shot three straight times to open the match. Three straight times, Creanza countered and weathered the threat.

A takedown by Creanza at the end of the first gave him a 2-0 lead going into the second period. Creanza was in complete control throughout the second period and wound up going into the third with his 2-0 lead still intact.

Creanza managed two points on a reverse to start the third. Then he began to attack from behind. He had a pin opportunity with 10 seconds left, couldn't do it, but wound up with the 4-0 win.

Sophomore Aaron Gilbert had an even tougher go in the 125's. Gilbert wrestled defensively most of the way. It was 0-0 after one period. The Brownie got two on an escape with 50 seconds gone in the second. His opponent, Filipe Barroso,

managed one on a penalty point.

They went into the third with Gilbert up 2-1. Gilbert began to gain control in the third, riding Barroso and trying to flip him. Gilbert almost had his pin with 35 seconds left and wound up with a 2-1 win.

Fortunes Begin To Change For The Brownies...

Agawam was up 18-0 after four matches. Then their fortunes began to change. Things started in the 130's. Senior Ryan Gamache was in a dogfight with Ludlow's Jay Codding. Gamache had a 2-0 lead after the first period. But Codding is a tough customer. A Gamache reverse plus a takedown and a reverse by the Lion had things all even at five with 20 seconds to go. Then, Codding, in a lightning move, got the advantage and the pin with 10 seconds to go.

Chris Wayte was up next in the 135's. Abe Mestrie was the opponent. Mestrie led 2-0 after the first. Both locked up to start the second. Mestrie had Wayte in a leg scissors with 1:07 left. They went into the third with the Lion leading 2-0.

Wayte managed two on a takedown. But Mestrie worked his way out and into a neutral position, scoring two points. It ended with Wayte losing 4-2.

Junior Brian Chechile was in at 140. He was up against tough Justin Bruneau. The match was an even-up affair, with the Brownie leading 4-3 after the first. A Bruneau takedown made it 5-3, Ludlow, with 30 seconds gone.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 38...

GIRLS' HOOP - from Page 37...

points/10 rebounds). "I tend to do that against kids like Maureen," she smiled. It was mentioned that Leahy had her by four inches. "Yeah, and 50 pounds, too," Pia laughed.

Four points was as close as the Falcons would get. Gendron gunned up a three from the left wing. Senior Melissa Cote, showing up very strong again (6 points/9 rebounds) at 5:11, especially on defense, took a feed on the next possession, got fouled, and hit both ends of the charity shot, upping Agawam's lead to 37-28.

Maloni came back in. If the Falcons had any dreams of coming back, they were dashed by her return. She took a jumper from the right base line, got fouled, and hit both of the shots. Just like that, the Brownies were up, 41-28. Maloni would be fouled seven times down the stretch, hitting 10 of 14. That performance, along with a Gendron three at the 2:20 mark, made it 47-33 and soon-to-be 52-39, sending the Falcons flying back to Wilbraham with their second loss to AHS this season.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Maloni - 28 pts (5-10 fgs, including a 3, 17-20 fts, 2 rebs, 2 steals); Gendron - 10 pts (4-7 fgs, including two 3's, 0-1 fts, 3 rebs); Bertone-Gross - 8 pts (4-6 fgs, 10 rebs, 3 off); Cote - 6 pts (2-8 fgs, 2-2 fts, 8 rebs, 1 off).

TEAM STATS: Fgs - 15-29 (51 percent), including three 3's; Fts - 19-23 (82 percent), 26 rebs, 4 off; turnovers - 10, 0 points allowed off turnovers.

MINNECHAUG TEAM STATS: Fgs - 14-40 (35 percent), including two 3's; Fts - 9-16 (56 percent); 27 rebs, 11 off; turnovers - 15, 4 points allowed off turnovers.

JV NOTES: The Agawam junior varsity beat the young Falcons, 46-44. Sophomore Keegan Clark was high scorer with 10.

AHS WRESTLING - from Page 37...

Bruneau had a pin opportunity with time running out. The buzzer saved the Brownie. The roof caved in on Chechile with 62 seconds gone in the third as he was pinned. Suddenly, Agawam saw its lead shrink to 18-15.

It was time to stop the bleeding. All-Western Mass. 145-pounder **Mark Engleman** saw to that. Engleman got a takedown with seconds gone and went for the pin. He led 5-1 after one. There was still a pinfall on his mind going into the second period. He almost had it with 56 seconds to go and finally succeeded with 20 seconds left. That win gave Agawam six points and a 24-15 lead.

All-Western Mass. Brownie **Adam Blair** saw action in the 152's. It was all tied up at two on a couple takedowns going into the second period. Blair was trying for control in the second.

He had a pin opportunity on his opponent with 30 seconds left and seemed to have it. But the buzzer denied him. Blair got the 4-2 win on a takedown 80 seconds into the third period.

Senior **Scott Murphy** took the mat in the 160's, fresh off his win last week against West Springfield. Murphy was all over Ludlow's Dave Kenny, pinning him with 14.7 seconds left in the first period. That quick pin made it 33-15, Agawam, with the meet heading to upper weight divisions and the Brownies heading for trouble.

John Weinle, after trailing 10-2, was pinned by Steve Bradley at 1:07 of the second period in the 171's.

It would get worse. **Justin Petrangelo** suffered a similar fate at the hands of Dimitri Privedenyuk in the 189's. The Lion pinned the Brownie with 53 seconds left in the first period. What had at one time been a comfortable Agawam lead was quickly deteriorating into a wormburner and it was fading fast.

Agawam, up 33-27, looked to **Eric Pederson** in the 215's. The junior, usually a tough customer, met a tougher one in Ludlow's Derek Venne. A Lion pin at the 1:43 mark of the first suddenly saw the score, 33-33.

It was up to heavyweight **Brian Pederson**. He was locked up against Dave Perham. Pederson got two points early on a takedown and seemed to be in control at 2-1 with 10 seconds left in the first. The Brownie went up 4-1 on a reversal to start the second. He was in complete control, 6-2, on another takedown at the 1:10 mark.

Perham is a big kid and the last thing any heavyweight wants is for a big kid to land on them. Perham took Pederson down late in the second and tried for the pin. With 25.2 left in the second, Pederson was bleeding from the nose courtesy of a Perham forearm (unintentional). Pederson came back and was about to get pinned when the buzzer saved him to end the second.

Perham led 7-6 to start the third two minutes. He went up 8-6 on an escape and got two more on a reversal. With 1:02 left, the Lion led 10-6. Pederson had to start taking chances. He took one too many and got pinned with 27 seconds left. A penalty on Agawam took away a point, leading to its 39-32 loss.

Ludlow finished the regular season at 23-3-1, but 9-0 in Division A.

Brownie Cheerleaders Put On Good Show



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH VARSITY CHEERLEADING squad regularly entertain the crowds who attend the school's varsity girls' and boys' basketball games at Kibbe Gym. The girls use many acrobatic moves in their routines (like the one pictured above). photo by Dave Rollins.

Camping & Outdoor Show Coming To BIG E Grounds Feb. 12th -15th

The Springfield Camping & Outdoor Show, which is located on the Eastern States Exposition grounds in West Springfield, is entering its 37th year and will feature over 170 exhibitors from New England and beyond.

The show is produced and staffed entirely by volunteers from Pioneer Valley Chapter 8 of the North American Family Campers Association (NAFCA). Billed as "a show for campers by campers," the members of Pioneer Valley Chapter 8 are extremely proud of the size and quality of the show over the past 37 years.

The dates and times for the show are as follows:

Friday, February 12th, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 13th, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Sunday, February 14th, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and Monday, February 15th, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Additional attractions this year will include entertainment provided by the world famous Shriners Clowns, magic shows, animal shows, a magic show, and others. A drawing will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 15th, for major prizes, including an all-expense paid trip to Disney World, a pair of mountain bikes, and a complete family tenting package. Children's prizes include a bike with helmet and a tenting package.

General admission is \$5 with a discount coupon (\$6 without a coupon). Senior citizens and disabled American veterans pay \$3 on any day. Children 12 and under are FREE when accompanied by an adult. FREE PARKING is also provided.

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Danielle DeForge Continues To Be Mainstay Of AHS Girls' Swimming

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Danielle DeForge has been a mainstay of Agawam High girls' swimming for the past four years. The senior recently took some time out to talk about her days as a Brownie.

She is 18. Her birthday was January 11th. She has spent her four years of secondary education at AHS. Currently, she's taking sociology, calculus, physics, advanced placement English, and word processing II. Her favorite course is physics. Danielle is a member of the National Honor Society and belongs to the Math Club and the Shakespeare Club. Her favorite teacher is Arthur Gage (physics).

Right now, she has her eye on three colleges - The University of Richmond, American University (in Washington, D.C.), and Assumption College in Worcester.

Danielle is a versatile athlete. In the fall, it's field hockey. She swims in the winter and is a two-miler on the track team in the spring. She likes all equally well. "They are so different from one another," she told us.

Her most memorable sports moment was qualifying for the Western Mass. Championships in swimming as a sophomore.

Pedraza Plays Strong Role In Three Sports At Agawam High

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Another three-sport star at Agawam High School is Marc Pedraza. The senior took some time out to talk about his days as a Brownie.

Marc turned 17 on September 14th. He's six feet tall and weighs 205 pounds. He has spent four years at the High School. Currently, he's taking anatomy, physics, advanced math, psychology, sociology, and culinary arts. He doesn't have any favorite courses. Former Agawam High assistant football Coach Bill Moore was his favorite teacher. He is leaning towards Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He'd like to play football and participate in track if he goes there.

Marc was a tight end and linebacker (even a running back) as well as a captain on the football team. Currently in basketball, he is averaging 12 points per game for AHS and is a captain there as well. He throws the discus in track and field and has a long heave of 134'4."

He enjoys football, has played basketball the longest, but says track is the most fun.

His most memorable sports moment came in his sophomore season in football. He was a starter. "My first varsity tackle came against Minnechaug. I hit the kid so hard, I broke my shoulder pads," Marc grinned.

He had this to say about the varsity hoop team, which at this writing is struggling at 2-14. "It's

been tough. We lost three out of our five projected starters. There is a lot of inexperience on the team right now."

As for chow, "I'll eat anything," he said. "I love food."

He favors either green or blue.

When he gets a vehicle, he'd like it to be a Ford F-150.

He has three favorite athletes: Shannon Sharpe of the Denver Broncos in football, Sean Kemp of the Cleveland Cavaliers in basketball, and Dan O'Brien in track.

When Marc relaxes, he likes to do it at his cousin T.J.'s house in Agawam.

He likes t-shirts and jeans, plus he loves to wear his old University of Michigan cap. "I always have it on," he laughed.

He enjoys country music. Alan Jackson is his favorite artist in that genre. But Marc admits he'll listen to just about anything.

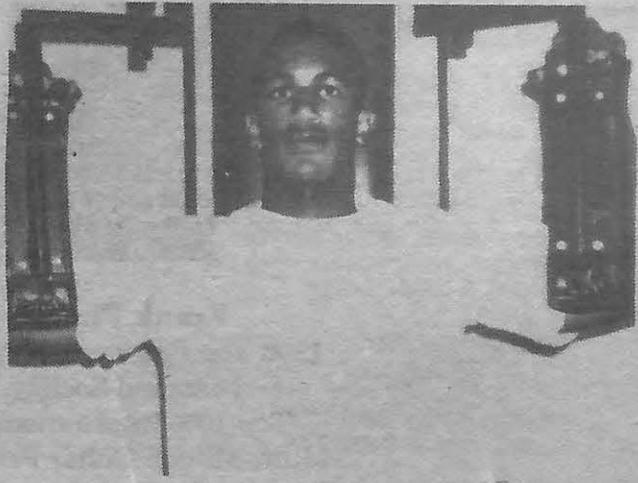
He doesn't watch much TV, but when he does, it's *Thundercats* on Comic View. "*Robin Hood*" (the cartoon) is his top flick.

His mom's name is Theresa Beal. Marc is his dad. He has a brother, Gary (14), plus three half-brothers, one step-sister, and one step-brother.

He looks up to his grandfather, Joseph Pastel, who lives in Springfield.



DANIELLE DEFORGE



MARC PEDRAZA

When his days are done at AHS, Marc says he wants to be remembered as an individual, not a follower.

Varsity basketball Coach Gary Grumoli has said of Marc that he's a leader who has helped hold the team together during what has become a tough season.

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*Where Are They Now?????***In The Late 1980's, Rick Parolo Was One Of The Elite In WMass. Soccer/Hockey**

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In the middle 1980's, Rick Parolo was a double-barreled star in soccer and hockey at Agawam High School. When he graduated in 1988, he had racked up some impressive credentials and a bunch of awards in both sports.

While he excelled in each of them, soccer was his first love. "That was my real sport," he told us in a recent interview. Even though he was more than willing, Rick wasn't able to play as a freshman. "Back then, though it wasn't that long ago, they had rules against ninth-graders competing at the varsity level. So it was the freshman team for me," he noted.

There was no such problem in his sophomore season. He started from the get-go as a striker and drilled 16 goals (four assists). He came into his own as a junior, leading the team to its first-ever Western Mass. title, with a league-high 27 goals to go along with 10 assists. That year, he was named All-Western Mass. and All-State.

"I don't know what happened in my senior year," he said. "After seven games, I had 16 goals and 16 assists. Then I didn't get a point for the remainder of the season. I guess I was having some problems with a girl at the time," he shook his head. The Brownies lost to Cathedral in the Western Mass. Tournament. The Panthers went on to win the State Championship.

Despite this, the awards kept coming. Rick was All-Western Mass. again, All-State again, and All-New England. He was also nominated as a high school All-American. "I never knew exactly what happened there. I guess we never really followed up on that," he admitted.

His Best Soccer Memory...

His best memory of soccer came in his junior year. "We were playing Central in the Western Mass. finals and it was four-all after regulation. We played two 20-minute overtime periods and were still tied. Then we played two sudden-death sessions and were still tied. So, it went to penalty shots and that's how we won it."

Mike Hall, who played for West Springfield in Rick's time, is his most memorable opponent. "Mike was excellent on defense. If anyone ever came close to shutting me down, it was him."

If you've ever peered into the trophy case up at the High School, you might have noticed that Rick's hockey stick is front and center among the many awards. "I'm not really quite sure why it's there," he admitted. But all you have to do is look at his point production in four years as a center on the varsity to understand the situation. (He was allowed to play varsity hockey as a freshman.)

He had four goals and three assists as a

freshman, and 20 goals and 15 assists the next year. As a junior, he rang up 20 goals and 20 assists and led the team to a 15-1 record and a Western Mass. title. He led the league in scoring with 30 goals and 20 assists as a senior.

But even with Rick's firepower and a 16-0 record, they lost in overtime to West Springfield in the Western Mass. finals.

SEE PAROLO - Page 42...



WHETHER IT WAS ON THE SOCCER FIELD (left) or on the ice, Rick Parolo was always a marquee performer for Agawam High School.

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RICK PAROLO, who helped to lead the Agawam High varsity boys' soccer team to a Western Mass. title, later received All-New England honors.

PAROLO - from Page 41...

Still, the awards continued to pile up on the mantel. He won the Amos Bessone Award as the Most Valuable Player in Division A. He was All-Western Mass. both as a junior and a senior, and was scouted by several Division II college teams. "I think, in my hockey career, the best player I ever saw was on our own team, Dennis Punch. He won the Eddie Shore Award as the top defenseman in the league," Rick noted.

His Father's Profound Effect...

Rick remembers his father as having a profound effect on his progress as an athlete. His dad coached him until he reached the High School. "He really helped me a lot." His dad died when he was 21 and that was a big blow for him. "I kind of lost interest in soccer after that," Rick admitted.

He has good memories of former AHS hockey Coach Lenny Brusso, who took over when Rick was a sophomore. "Lenny could build a winning team around two or three good players. He was talented." Brusso owns Bay State Fuel and Oil in Springfield now.

Things weren't over right away when high school ended. "I went to Belgium with a pro team to play in the summer of my senior year. The sport (soccer) is a religion over there." He also played pro soccer for the Ludlow Lusitanos. "That's when my dad died," he noted.

Thomas Wolfe said once, "You can't go home again." Does Rick ever go back to AHS? "Yeah, to the wrestling matches sometimes because they always seem to win." He also noted that he drives by the school every now and then during home football games. "I'd like to drop in, but I'm not going to freeze my tail off when they're losing 40 to nothing."

"It's gone by pretty quick," he said of his 11 years since those heady days at AHS. Does he see any difference between now and then on the athletic fields? "Not really. If you have a few kids on a team who can motivate other kids, you can still be successful. In the end, it's all how bad you want to win."

He still keeps his hand in the game as far as hockey goes, playing for a team at Forest Park. "There are a lot of ex-college players in that league, plus some guys pushing 50. It's good competition," he noted.

Rick currently works for the CNS company in Agawam and is hoping to land a job with the Agawam Department of Public Works.

Youth Lacrosse Being Offered For Boys By Ag. Parks Dept.

The Recreation Department will accept registration for Youth Lacrosse until February 19th.

The program, which is open to boys in grades five through eight, begins in April. The cost is \$45.

The waiting list for Girls' Lacrosse will also close on February 19th.

If you have any questions, call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

Second Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic Slated For Early March

The Second Annual Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic will be held at Agawam Junior High School on March 8th, 9th, and 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for girls in grades five through eight.

Lacrosse is the fastest sport on two feet, so come and be a part of this exciting game. Learn the basic fundamentals of catching, throwing, shooting, cradling, and game play.

The cost for the entire clinic is \$20. Checks should be made payable to "Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Booster Club."

Sticks will be provided for those in need. Long-sleeve lacrosse T-shirts and shorts will also be on sale at the clinic.

Registration will take place at 5:30 p.m. on March 8th in the Junior High gymnasium.

For more information, contact Cindy Grieve at 821-0569.

* * *

NO ONE covers all the hometown sports like us, each week - AAN!!!

* * *

4H Horse Club Seeks Donations Of Used Or New Trophies

The Mane-I-Acs 4H Horse Club is looking for donations of used or new trophies to be refurbished and used in our June horse show.

The trophies may be any size and from any activity.

For pickup, please call Bernice Rueli in Agawam at 789-1512, or Janet Pohlman in Southwick at 569-5948.

**Subscribe today.
Call us at 786-7747
or 786-8137. Thanks.**

Agawam Babe Ruth Sign-Ups Slated For This Month

The Agawam Babe Ruth League has scheduled a second evening for its annual Baseball Sign-Ups on Wednesday, February 24th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

The League is for 13 to 15 year-olds. Any person who turns 13 by August 1, 1999, but has not turned 16 by the same date, is eligible to participate.

The registration fee is \$75.

For further information, please call William Walsh at 786-7701, or John DeBonville at 786-3588.

Check our classified pages every week

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Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

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Baseball & Softball Sign-Ups

When:

**Thursday, February 18, 1999
From 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
And**

**Saturday, February 27, 1999
Sunday, February 28, 1999
From 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

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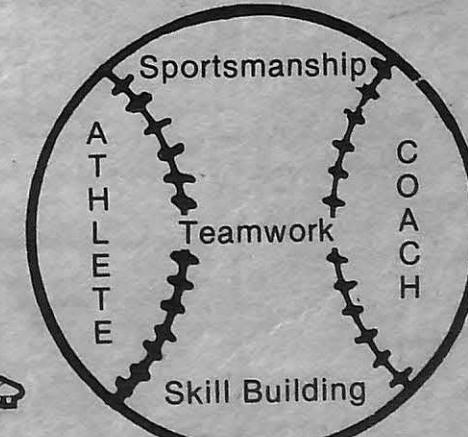
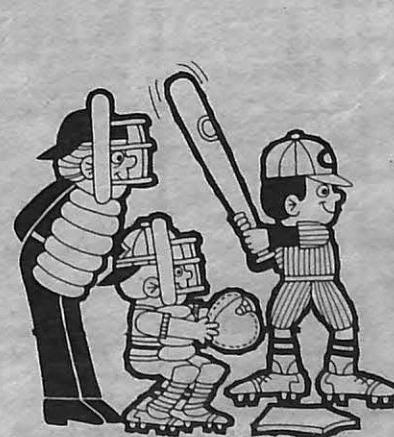
**All Other Leagues
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Any Late Sign-Ups Will Be Put On A Waiting List

Don't Miss Out! Get There Early!



Experience The Value Of Team Sports

Ag. Parks Dept. Offers Several Courses

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is sponsoring the following courses.

Lifeguard Training Course: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-9:00 p.m. from February 9th through March 4th. To be held at the Agawam Junior High School pool. Fee is \$175, which includes books, pocket mask, and cards. Participants must be 15 years of age. Instructor is Gordon Sellick.

Water Safety Instructor Course: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-9:00 p.m. from March 9th through April 1st. To be held at the Agawam Junior High School pool.

Fee is \$175, which includes books and cards. Participants must be 17 years of age. Instructor is Gordon Sellick.

Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parental permission is needed.

There is a class minimum of six and maximum of 16 participants.

For more information, call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

Golf Privilege Card Can Bring Spring One Step Closer

Tired of winter already? Got the post-holiday blahs? The good news is that the days ARE getting longer AND the Golf Privilege Card® is available for spring at only \$39.95.

You can look forward to over \$1,400 worth of golf-related discounts this spring, summer, and fall. This statewide card has 74 golf courses, 26 of which are in Western Mass. as well as 26 golf-related businesses, 11 of which are in Western Mass.

For details, call the American Lung Association of Western Mass. at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA (in Mass.). Proceeds from the Golf Privilege Card® underwrite asthma education for children and adults in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire counties.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone!!! Please mail your ad with payment to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, or stop by our office at 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA (in the Crossroads Shoppes).

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The Veterans Of AHS Girls' Swim Team...



IN PHOTO ABOVE: The seniors on this year's Agawam High girls' swimming team (from left to right): Bridget Donovan, Danielle DeForge, Brenna McGinn, Shaunessey Egan, and Alicyn Siano. **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Brenna McGinn in action during a recently held meet.

Top photo by Jack Devine; bottom photo courtesy of Mr. David Pulaski of Agawam High School.

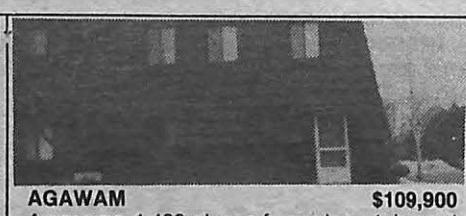


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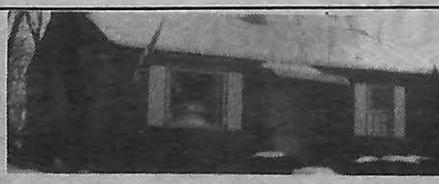
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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Ice Fishing Heating Up...

Valley ice fishermen cashed in on some hot perch and crappie action over the past week. Not only did mother nature provide some safe ice, she also turned on some of the fish.

Reports coming in indicated that areas like the Oxbow section of the Connecticut River were producing some good catches of perch and crappie. In addition to the perch and crappies, some very respectable northern pike were iced at the Oxbow. Large shiners or small yellow perch were said to do the trick. A few hefty bass were taken by both shiner fishermen and jiggers.

Other Valley locations that have produced some nice bass include Congamond Lakes, Hampton Ponds, and Five Mile Pond in Springfield.

Look for areas where the water deepends. Try to locate the drop-offs near points and bars. See if you can imagine the conditions in summer. Where were those weed beds? Wasn't there a hump somewhere close to this spot? Try to find some structure! Fish will hold on structure, regardless of whether or not the water surface is solid or liquid.

If you are jigging for bass or just anything that will hit, try some of the ice spoons and weighted willow leaf ice jigs. Light line or other specialty lines like the Berkley Cold Weather line is important. Monofilament can get pretty stiff and kinky in cold weather.

Remember that a fish's metabolism is dependent on the water temperature. During the cold water months, the fish will be somewhat sluggish and will not chase down your offering if it is moving too fast.

GETTING READY FOR SPRING FISHING

The Springfield Sportsman's Show opens next Thursday and runs through Sunday. This is the largest "pure" sportsmen's show in the Northeast. This is the one "can't miss" event for area sportsmen.

A full schedule of seminars is on tap. Hunting tactics that work, saltwater fishing, and just about everything in between will be covered by experts in their field. Just one good seminar is worth the price of the show admission itself.

Take advantage of the full slate of seminars that are offered. It is the best deal going at least at this time of the year.

COD TRIP

This year's winter cod trip is starting to shape up, and I will announce the details in the next two weeks after making final selection of boats and trip prices.

Watch this column for more information in the coming two weeks.

TACKLE TUNE-UPS

With spring just around the corner, it's time to make sure that your tackle is ready for the fishing season.

Reels that need repair should be sent to the shop NOW! Don't wait until the last minute to send them out. Beat the rush and you will be assured of having the equipment back in time for the upcoming action.

Inspect the line guides on your rods for nicks and grooves. Replace any of the guides that have nicks. They will cut your line at the worst possible times. Attention to little details like this will save a ton of grief later.

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Green Machine	3	3	0	6
Green Giants	3	3	0	6
Fire Balls	0	6	0	0

10-11 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
RED DIVISION	6	0	0	12
Whip's Wildcats	2	4	0	4
Strikers	1	5	0	2
St. Catherine	1	5	0	2
Brookside	0	6	0	0
Blue Jays				

BLUE DIVISION	W	L	T	P
Twisters	5	1	0	10
Holy Cross	5	1	0	10
Voyagers	4	2	0	8

10 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Lightning	6	0	0	12
Games & Lanes	4	2	0	8
Yellow Jackets	1	5	0	2
West Side	1	5	0	2

12-13 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Umbrolievable	4	1	1	9
Brookside	4	1	1	9
Palmer Galaxy	2	3	1	5
Comets	0	5	1	1

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Agawam (Marsili)	4	0	1	9
West Side	3	1	1	7
Red Devils	2	3	0	4
Cosmos	0	5	0	0

Still Time To Sign-Up For The Fun By Using "The Ski Privilege" Card

The American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts has unveiled its new and improved "Ski Privilege Book" for the 1998-99 ski season, offering free and discounted skiing at over a dozen ski resorts in Western Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Discounts are also available at eight area ski shops on ski merchandise and ski tune-ups.

For \$39, the holder of the "Ski Privilege Book" can ski one time at each resort either free or at a discount, Monday through Friday. The book includes free pass deals, buy-one-get-one-free deals, and other discounts on ski passes and merchandise.

Participating Western Massachusetts ski areas are: Berkshire East, Blandford, Bousquet, Butter-nut, Catamount, Jiminy Peak, Otis Ridge, and Wachusett Mountain. Participating Connecticut

and New Hampshire areas are: Mt. Southington, Powder Ridge, Mohawk Mountain, Woodbury, Cedar Brook, and Black Mountain Ski Area.

Discounts on merchandise and tune-ups are available in Western Massachusetts at the Colorado Ski Outlet, Competitive Edge, Wildwater Outfitters, and the Ski-In. Other discounts are available at Connecticut shops as well.

One-hundred percent of funds raised through the "Ski Privilege Book" will help the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts' community education and research programs in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire Counties.

For more information or to order the "Ski Privilege Book," please call the American Lung Association at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.

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In Tri-Parish Bowling...

Holy Cross Takes The Lead At The Start Of Round 3

After finishing in third place in round two of the Tri-Parish Bowling League, Holy Cross began round three on an outstanding note by finishing in first place on Monday, February 1st. Thanks to its 4-0 pasting of last-place Notre Dame, HC climbed to the top of the league and hopes that this early success will continue as the round progresses and undoubtedly becomes more competitive.

Meanwhile, Fordham, St. Louis, and Boston College are currently tied for second place, courtesy of their 3-1 victories over St. Mary's, Catholic University, and St. Michael's, respectively. As for the middle of the pack, St. Anselm and Georgetown split their contest at two games apiece.

"Richy" RICH SNYDER led the men on this particular evening by turning in a 132 single string and a 374 triple string. "Jolly" OLLY MULDREW was the runner-up for the guys, thanks to his 146 single and 363 triple.

Other impressive performances were also turned in by RON "The Don" MENARD (134, 360), "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (125, 344), GLEN "Not Sam" ADAMS (119, 340), "Luscious" LOU MULDREW (116, 332), and ROGER "Rabbit" JOSEPHSON (112, 326).

On the last night of round two, "The Mighty" DEB POIRIER came in second place. However, on the first Monday of this month, she returned to her customary first-place position with a 136 single string and a 364 triple string. CORI "Not Lori" NAPOLITAN proved that she was a contender on the lanes, coming in second with a 130 single and a 347 triple.

As for the other leading ladies on this evening, they were "Go With The" FLO ROCHFORD (121, 327), "Terrible" TERRY DION (123, 323), MARY "Not Tyler Moore" THOMAS (109, 319), "Testy" BETSY CANNON (120, 315), and BARB "Wire" Howard (110, 310).

Daggett Gymnasts Compete At Two Sectional Meets

Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics traveled to Gym Unlimited in Westford, Massachusetts, for the Level Six U.S.A. Gymnastics sectional qualifier.

In the 10-11 age group, Mia Yacteen qualified with a 33.5 all around, which included a sixth-place finish on bars (8.0).

In the 12-13 age group, Sarah Kantany's 32.35 just missed the qualifying score of 32.5. Joy Higley of Suffield also fell short of the mark, yet still turned in a credible score of 31.05. Both of these hard-working gymnasts will have another chance to qualify later in the year.

The Level Five girls' team also had a sectional meet, theirs taking place at Montachusett Gymnastics in Fitchburg.

In the 9-10 age bracket, Jamie Basilone qualified with a 33.95 all around, which included a 9.05 on vault. Other great scores in this group include: Kim Denu, 31.9; Andrea Hurwitz, 30.3; and Mia Saimeri, 32.2.

In the 11-12 group, Christie Lee "raised the roof" with her 35.0 first-place all around, which included a 9.15 (first) on vault and a 9.05 (first) on floor. Julia Conway (31.5), Amber Higley (29.5), and Danielle Lee (31.45) also performed admirably. Cassandra Smolkowicz also had a fine meet with a 32.4 all around and a first-place finish on floor (8.95).

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 Starting Feb. 14 after Worship,
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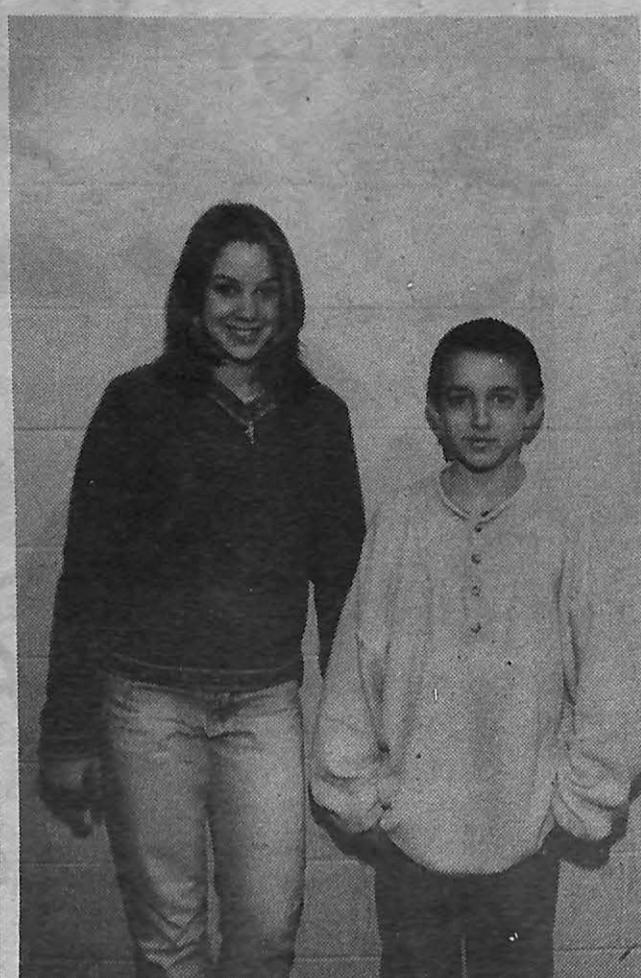
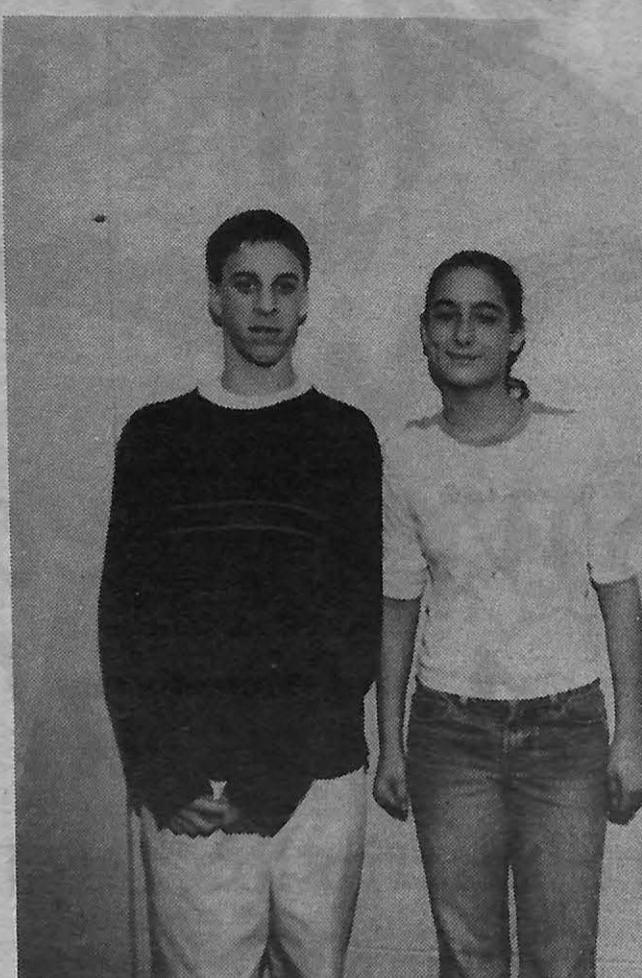
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Jr. High's Top Phys. Ed. Students



THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION "Students of the Month" for the Agawam Junior High included, from left - Dave Bienia and Katie Maynard, eighth graders; and Brittany Taylor and Michael Weinle, seventh graders. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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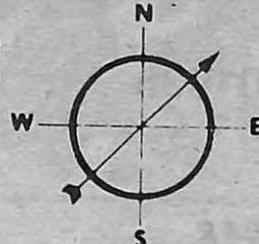
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The logo for Tim's Carpentry features a stylized ladder on the left and a hammer on the right, both rendered in a dark, textured font.

The logo for Northeast Builders is centered on a white background. At the top left, the company name "Northeast Builders" is written in a large, bold, serif font. Above it, "Reg. No. 116963" and "Const. Sup. No. 000450" are listed. To the right, the text "Fully Insured & Licensed" is displayed. Below the main title, "Since 1975" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. A horizontal line extends from the end of "Since 1975" to the right, ending at the start of the word "Custom". The word "Custom" is followed by a dot and "Homes • Remodeling". To the right of the text area is a compass rose with four main arrows pointing North, South, East, and West, with "N", "S", "E", and "W" labeled respectively.

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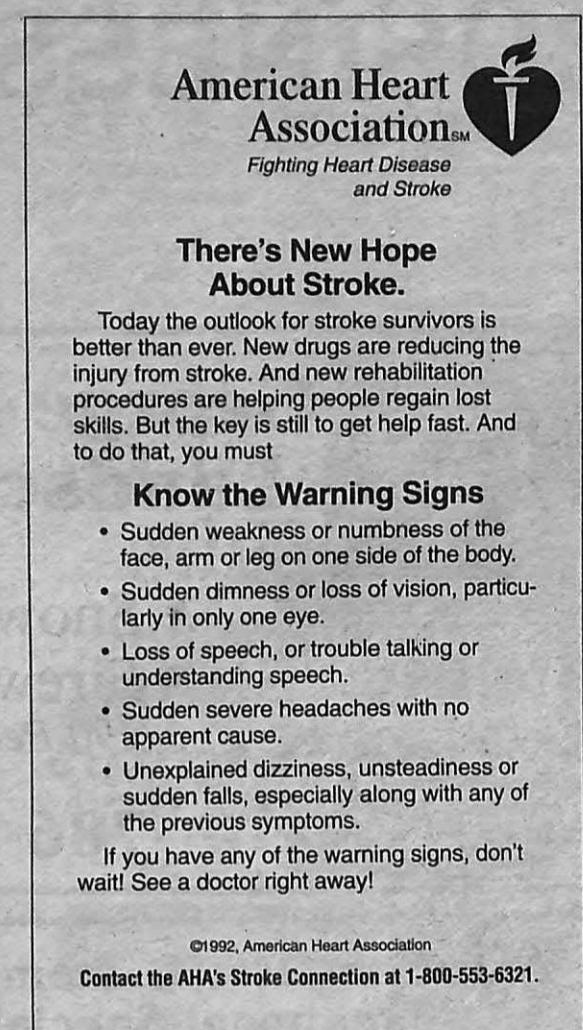
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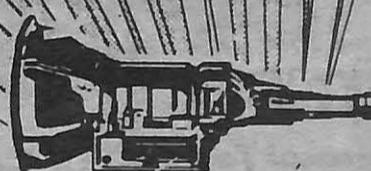
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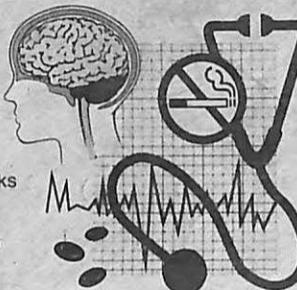
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- High red blood cell count

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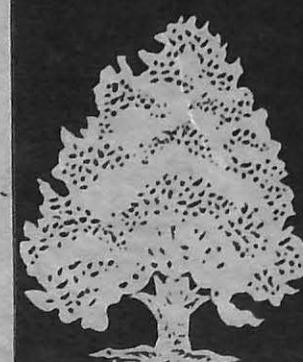
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